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# THE FIRST BOOK OF Womens Diſeaſes.

*The Proem by the Author.*

IT is acknowledged by the moſt able Phyſitians, that it requires great diligeuce, and Judgement to contrive an exact Partition, or Explanation of Womens Diſeaſes, and to oblige the World with a right Method, and Meanes to cure them: becauſe ſometimes a part is diſeaſed by conſent, and ſometimes primarily,

ly, by it selfe, or without any communication of distemper either with, or without matter, from any other part. The Ancients, whose studious endeavours conspired the subduing of these Diseases, have left behinde them most honourable testimonies of their labours, in favour of that Sex. Modern men also have been stirred up to their defence, as *Mercurialis*, and *Mercatus*, the former indeed with sufficient elegance, but the latter with so much tediousnes, and confusion; that you may sooner finde your Patient dead, then a remedy in his writings for her recovery; to correct this inconvenience, *Rodericus a Castro* engaged his pen in their quarrell, but with no great successe, for if my Judgement be any thing considerable, his writings are more learned, then usefull. When I had noted these deficiencies, I thought with my selfe, that if I culled out the choicest Medicines (omitting

(omitting the ſuperfluous) and digeſted them into a little worke by themſelves, it might prove an undertaking worthy of a generall acceptation; This was the birth, and growth of my deſigne, warrantable enough, as I conceive, if not praiſe worthy, and if I flatter not my ſelfe in an opinion of my own paines, I have proceeded with ſo much perſpicuity, and tender circumſpection, as will make the event anſwerable.

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# Womens DISEASES.

## The first Chapter.

### *Of the consent between the Diseases of the* Matrix, *and those of the other parts.*

WOMEN were made to stay at home, and to looke after Houshold employments, and because such business is accompanied with much ease, without any vehement stirrings of the body, therefore hath provident Nature assigned them their monethly Courses, that by the benefit of those evacuations, the feculent and corrupt bloud might be purified, which otherwise,

as

as being the purest part of the bloud, would turne to ranke poyson, should it remaine in the body and putrifie; like the seed ejaculated out of its proper vessells. *Hippocrates* had a perfect understanding of these things, as may appeare by those words, in his booke *de locis in homine*, where he saith, that the *Matrix* is the cause of all those diseases which happen to women; and it is no strange thing which he speaketh; for the *Matrix* hath a Sympathie with all the parts of the body; as with the Braine by the *Nerves* and *Membranes* of the parts about the *spine*, from whence sometimes ariseth the paines, in the fore part, and the hinder part of the head, with Heart also, both by the *Spermatick*, and the *Epigastrick arteries*, or those that lie about the *Abdomen* at the bottome of the bellie, from hence cometh the paine of the heart, fainting, and swounding fits, the passion of the Heart, anxietie of minde, dissolution of the spirits, insomuch as you cannot discerne, whither a woman breaths or not, or that she hath any pulse; it hath likewise a consent with the breasts; and from hence proceed those swellings, that hardness, and those terrible *Cancers* that afflict those tender parts, that a humour doth flow upwards

upwards, from the *Matrix* to the Breasts, and downwards again, from the Breasts to the *Matrix*, is the unanimous assertion of *Galen*, *Hippocrates*, *Laurentius*, *Duretus*, and others; moreover it hath a sympathie with the Liver; and thus the *sanguification* is perverted, and the body inclines to a Dropsie, and with the stomach and the Kidneys also, as those paines which great bellied women doe feele, and the torments which some Virgins undergoe, when they have their Courses, sufficiently witnesse. And lastly, *Hippocrates* hath taught us, that this consent holdeth with the bladder, and the straight gut; for, saith he, when that part is inflamed, then the urine commeth away by drops, and the Patient hath frequent desires, and solicitations to goe to stoole, but but without any performance.

Womens diseases are divided into foure *Classes*, whereof the first containeth the diseases that are common to all women: the second comprehendeth such as are peculiar to Widowes, and Virgins; The third specifieth those Affects that concern barren women, and such as are fruitfull; And the fourth treateth of such diseases, as befall Women with Childe, and Nurses; of all which we shall now speak, one after another, in their order.

Those

Those diseases that are common, both to widowes and wives, both to barren women, and women that are fruitfull, as also to young Maids, and Virgins, proceed from the retention, or stoppage of their Courses, as the most universall, and most usuall cause; when these come from them, in a due and regular manner, their bodies are preserved from most terrible diseases; but otherwise, they are immediately subject to the falling Sickness, the Palsie, the Consumption, the Whites, the Mother, Melancholy, Burning Fevers, the Dropsey inward inflammations of all the principall parts, the suppression of the urine, nauseating, vomiting, loathing of meat, yexing, and a continuall paine in the Head, arising from ill vapours, communicated from the *Matrix* to the Braine.

Wives are more healthfull then Widowes, or Virgins, because they are refreshed with the mans seed, and ejaculate their own, which being excluded, the cause of the evill is taken away. This is evident from the words of *Hippocrates*, who adviseth young Maids to marrie, when they are thus troubled; that women have stones and seed, no true Anatomist will denie; the womans seed, I confess, in regard of the small

quantitie

quantity of heat, is more imperfect then the seed of the mans, yet is it most absolute in it selfe, and fit for Generation. Another cause also may be added, besides that which is alledged from *Hippocrates*, namely, that married women by lying with their husbands, doe loosen the passages of the seed, and so the Courses come down more easily thorow them; Now in Virgins it falls out otherwise, because the bloud is stopped by the constipation and obstruction of the veines, and being stopped putrifies, from which putrifaction grosse vapours doe arise, and from thence heavinesse of minde, and dulnesse of spirit, a benummednesse of the parts, timorousnesse, and an aptnes to be frighted, with a sudden propensitie to fall into fits of the Mother, by reason of much bloud, oppressing and burthening the heart, also continuall anxiety, sadnes, aud want of sleep, with idle talking, and an alienation of the minde, but that which most commonly afflicts them, is a difficulty, and paine to fetch their breath, for the chest by a continuall dialatation and compression, draweth the bloud from the *Matrix* to it selfe, in a large proportion, and sometimes produceth *asthmaticall* effects. But

what ſhall we ſay concerning Widowes, who lye fallow, and live ſequeſtred from theſe *Venereous* Conjunctions? we muſt conclude, that if they be young, of a black complexion, and hairie, and are likewiſe ſomewhat diſcoloured in their cheeks, that they have a ſpirit of ſalacity, and feele within themſelves a frequent titillation, their ſeed being hot and prurient, doth irritate and inflame them to *Venery*, neither is this concupiſcence allaid and qualified, but by provoking the ejaculation of the ſeed, as *Galen* propounds the advice in the example of a widow, who was afflicted with intolerable ſymptomes, till the abundance of the ſpermatick humour was diminiſhed by the hand of a skilfull Midwife, and a convenient oyntment, which paſſage will alſo furniſh us with this argument, that the uſe of *Venery* is exceeding wholſome, if the woman will confine her ſelfe to the Lawes of moderation, ſo that ſhe feele no weariſomneſſe, nor weakneſſe in her body, after thoſe pleaſing conflicts.

Moſt certaine it is, that barren women are more tormented with ſickneſſe, then thoſe that are fruitfull, becauſe, they who have children, live in a more healthfull condition, by reaſon of the opening of the veines,

veines, and the comming away of the ſuperfluous bloud; which being of an earthy, and feculent ſubſtance, muſt needs introduce prodigious ſymptomes in the bodies of other women, who have no ſeaſonable meanes to vent and purge it out, and daily experience doth witneſſe it to the private conſideration of ſuch women, that very many obſtructions breed in their *Livers*, *Meſenteries*, and *Matrices*. That women in Child-bed alſo, and ſuch as nurſe their owne children, are ſubject to moſt bitter, and vehement affects, *Galen* doth daily teach us by an undeniable reaſon; for whereas the childe in the wombe is nouriſhed by the ſweeteſt, fatteſt, and moſt elaborate part of the *menſtruous* Bloud, in its own nature filthy, and dreggiſh, when the woman is delivered, that bloud is forcibly evacuated by a criticall kinde of motion, and violent *ebullition*, whereupon the ſpirits are exhauſted, and the feeble creature is precipitated into mortall infirmities, as fainting fits, incredible torments, and frequent ſoundings.

Many times alſo, beſides that perticular fulneſſe of the womb through the ſwelling, and ſtrutting of the veines; ſuch women all the time that they be great with childe,

are oppressed with an abundance of ill humours, contracted, and heaped up together by a bad diet, after which the upper parts of their bodies are many times most wofully inflamed.

After the same manner also Nurses are tormented with sore breasts, painfull swellings, Ulcers, and Cancers, and the like cruell diseases, by reason that the *Menstruum* floweth in an unmeasurable quantitie to the breasts, and there settles. But now, by the permission of Heaven, we shall set down a particular Explanation of these Diseases.

## CHAP. II.

### *The suppression of the Courses.*

THe suppression of the *Courses*, is an interception, or stoppage of that usuall evacuation of bloud, which is wont to flow from the *Matrix* every month.

There is a twofold cause hereof; one inward, the other outward; the inward cause is also manifold; for sometimes it is one kinde of distemper, sometimes another; and sometimes againe, a humour is the cause thereof, the distemper is either

either hot, or cold, and concerning the former, this is controverted among the Doctors, how a hot distemper can stay the *Courses:* for if we will credit the best Authors, or submit our judgements to the generall Vote of Philosophy; it is the property of heat to open, to rarifie, to make thin, and to dilate: as on the contrary, it is the property of cold to obstruct, to thicken, to binde, and to condensate, the answer is easie and obvious; wherefore we say that heat properly doth not stay the *Courses*, but onely by accident, as namely by attenuation, diffipating, and consuming the thinner parts of the *Menstruum*, for any humour is reasonably conceived to become more drie and thick, when the thinner part thereof is wasted away; and againe, the thicker and dryer it is, it must needs be so much the more unapt to be expelled: and this is the reason that sturdie women in the Country, who are accustomed to labour, and take much paines, and such Virgins, as are of a hot constitution, have very little, or no evacuation this way, because the *Menstruum* is wasted, and vanisheth by their continuall exercise, and paines taking. Secondly, when the moisture is consumed away, the vessels are so much the more narrow

and bound up, so that there is almost no passage left for the exclusion of the *Courses.*

A cold *Distemper* stayeth the *Courses*, because it weakneth and cooleth the parts, breeds bad humors and obstructions, straightens the passages, obstructs the conduits, infirmes, and overcooleth the *Matrix*, and so retaines, suppresseth, and stoppeth the *Courses.*

Swellings, Impostumes, scars, and the like, are all reducible to the inward causes; but the most usuall inward cause is a slow, tough and slimy humour, which glewing up, as it were, the vessells of the *Matrix*, and thickning the bloud, retaineth the *Menstruum*, according to the opinion of *Galen*, delivered in severall places of his works.

The outward Causes are all those things, which any way increase a cold juice in the body, as a cold and moist Ayre, gluttony, crudities, cold *Baths*, and an unseasonable use of them, meats that yield a grosse nourishment, and are hard to digest, and such as constipate the humours, and thicken the bloud; in which number are thick and sweet wines, pulse of all sorts, white meats made with milke, hard fish, and salt flesh, *pothearbs*, *Vineger*, *Olives*, *Rice*, and the like; also an unseasonable use of *Venery*, a disorderly motion of the body, presently after meates, cold drink,

ale,

ale, and other Pourtents, or liquors which breed slow, and thick juices.

You may know when the *Menstruum* is, or will soon be suppressed by the relation of the sick woman, who commonly will make these discoveries; that she hath no stomack to her meat, that for a long time together she hath felt a heavinesse over all her body, with a paine in her back, her privities, and her *Matrix*: besides, you your self may discern a greenish paleness in her face; Sometimes she is troubled with loud belchings, and cruell paines in her belly; but frequently with the head-ach, especially in the forepart of her head, and when the bloud is stopped, & putrifies in her body, presently there ariseth a *Fever*, by reason of that *Sympathy*, *Communion*, or *consent* between the *Matrix* & the other parts.

Many, and irreparable are the inconveniences, and evills, which happen by this stoppage of the *Courses*, if we may beleeve the great *Hippocrates*, who in one of his *Aphorismes* saith, if the *Menstruum* comes away without moderation, diseases follow; but if it comes not away at all, yet then diseases happen also from the *Matrix*: but if it comes away in a due, and naturall manner, it preserves the woman from all gowtie torments, from paines in her joints,

from the *Pleurisie*, and all other inflammations in her sides, from the *Apoplexy*, from the difficulty to fetch her breath, and from loosing her voyce; Women that have not their *Courses*, must seeke for remedies with speed and prudence; let them betake themselves to a temperate and moyst Ayre, for if the Ayre be too hot, it wasteth the bloud, and drawes it upwards from the *Matrix*; it likewise exhausts the Spirits, and is thought to be a weakner of the body: on the contrary, when the Ayre is too cold, it compels the bloud to retire, it weakens the *Matrix*, breeds grosse and thick humours, and locks up the passages, so that the *Menstruum* cannot descend, the moist convenient drinke in this case is small *Rhenish* wine, if there be a *Fever*, or, which will be lesse dangerous, small *beere* boiled with a little *Cinamon*, *Anise*, *Maydenhaire*, or *Birthwort*.

Her diet should be such as will bee soon concocted, and easily distributed to all the parts; boiled meats are more wholesome for her then rosted, because these dry up the bloud, but they soften the body, and keep it moist: let her also choose to feed upon tame creatures rather then wilde, because these are more hot and dry, but those are more moist and temperate; boyle them with

with *red fitches;* for the broth that is thus made doth most powerfully bring down the *Courses.* What meats must be avoided hath been said above; but above all things, let her refraine the use of fowre things, because, as *Hippocrates* hath warned us, they bring paine to the *Matrix*; it will be good to rub the lower parts of her legs very often, and to tie straight ligatures about them, till they make her complaine of much paine.

Having thus prescribed her Diet, the next designe must be to evacuate the Cause; this may be done severall wayes, but especially by letting bloud, and sometimes by purging her body; the Physitians have long contended, but very foolishly, which vein should be cut: but we omitting the frivolous alterations on both sides, conclude with *Galen*, that when the *Courses* are stop't, if the strength of the woman will beare it, and the nature of the Disease require it, the vein in the Ankle must alwayes be opened; not in the Arme as *Aetius* commands; who also is backt in that opinion by *Gradus*, *Mercurialis*, and *Amatus Lusitanus*, who was taught by *Ruffus* to open a vein in a womans arme, to advance the cure; but I cannot approve of that course, because rectitude

tude must ever be observed. *Galen* in his book *de Curandi ratione per sang. miss. chapt.* 11. instead of opening a vein, useth Scarification to the domesticall part, as having the greatest resemblance with *Phlebotomy*, and if these things doe not overcome the Disease, apply *Leeches* to the *Hemorrhoids*, to take away the *accumulation* of *melancholy* bloud; for they suck out the *feculent*, and dreggish humours, impacted in the *Matrix*, by reason that those parts are so neere the one to the other.

*Zacutus Lusitanus* applieth them to the inner part of the *Matrix*, and boasteth himselfe the Author of this kinde of remedy; but whether it be consonant to reason, I leave to considering persons to judge.

There is no doubt but the application of *Leeches* may be usefull, because the humour is slow, thick and earthy: but in regard that no part is evacuated, till the whole body be first purged, therefore I shall advise you to give her this Purge following, which will worke very gently.

Take three drams of *Sena*.
Three scruples of *Agarick*.
A dram of *Annise-seeds*.

Macerate them together, in a sufficient quantity of *Penniroyall* water, for the space

space of a night, to three ounces, in the morning allow them one or two bublings, and to the liquor which you presse out, add

Foure drams of *Diaphenicon.*

Mingle them, and give it her to drinke.

Or of the *Electuary* make a *Bolus.*

When the body is purged, and a vein hath been opened, let your Judgement keep company with *Galens* directions, and prepare the thick humour with this *Decoction* following.

Take *Smallage*, *Fennell*, and *Sparagus* roots, of each halfe an ounce, the leaves of *Hyssope*, *Pennyroyall*, and *Birthwort*, of each a handfull.

Two drams of *Carrotts* seeds.

Boile them in a sufficient quantity of *Barley* water, to a quart; to the strained liquor add *Syr. de 5. radicibus*, and *Syr. lupulorum*, of each an ounce, mingle them, and make an *Apozem.* Or

Take the roots of *Acorns*, and *Elecampane*, of each two drams.

The leaves of *Pennyroyall*,
*Motherwort*,
*Balme*,
*Betony*, of each a handfull.

Two ounces of white *Agarick.*

An ounce and a halfe of *Anise seeds.*

Boile

Boile them in a sufficient quantity of *Fumitary* water to a pint: to the liquor which you presse out, add

Syrupe of *Motherwort*,
Syrupe of *Maydenhaire*, of each an ounce.
Mingle them, and make an *Apozem*.

Note that *Agarick* hath respect unto the nervous parts, and that the Syrup of the five roots with vinegar doth hurt the Nerves, because all sharp things are hurtfull to the *Matrix*, according to *Hippocrates*, whose Judgement winneth reverence with the best Physitians.

*Fomentations* must be applyed to the small guts, to the privie parts, and you must make them of opening simples, and such as will cut into, and make thin the grosse and thick humours.

Baths and halfetubs prepared of the like simples will be very usefull; and the best liniments you can choose are made of oyle of *Lillies*, *castor*, *dill*, and *capers*, and the most profitable oyntments are *unguent. Agrippe*, and *de Althea*, with gums.

After you have gone thus far, you must evacuate the bloud, and provoke urine: to which purposes prescribe this *Decoction* following.

Take the roots of *Butchers broome*,
*Sparagus*,

*Sparagus*,
*Smallage*,
*Fennill*, of each an ounce.
The roots of *Aristolochy* the round.
*Birthwort* of each two drams.
The leaves of *Penniroyall*,
*Snakeweed*,
*Motherwort*, of each a handfull.
Foure drams of *Sena*.
Two ounces of white *agarick*.
Foure ounces of *Hermodactyls*.
An ounce and a halfe of *Epithymum*.
*Anise* and *fennill* seeds, of each an ounce.

Boile them in a sufficient quantity of water, to a pint and a halfe, to the strained liquor being hard prest, add two ounces of the best *honey*, mingle them, and make an *Apozem*.

Every other morning let her drink foure ounces of this fasting, and in the meane time strengthen her belly, and her *Matrix*, with *fomentations* that are good to expell winde: you may make them of the Simples aforesaid, with the powders *Dianis*, *Diacumin*, *Diagalang*. and the like.

You must provoke the *Menstruum* with *Pessaries*, made of the juyce of *Mercury*, *Cucumbers*, *Restharrow*, unsalted *butter*, *Hogsgrease*, the *gall* of an *Oxe*, *Sagapenum*, *Ammoniacum*,

*moniacum*, *Castor*, *Assa-fetida*, and the like. Pertumes made with spices bring down the *Courses*, if the steame or vapour of them be conveighed into the *Matrix*; or you may appoint little *Trochishs* to be made with *rue*, *aristolochy*, *Castor*, *assa fetida*, *Sagapenum*, and *turpentine*, which being cast upon hot burning coles they will smoke, and that smoke will speedily bring down her *Courses*, if it be received up thorow a tunnell.

You must make an issue in her leg, that the *Matrix* may exhale, and the thick humours may be purged out.

Such Compositions as have steele in them will be most effectuall, for it is manifest by experience, that steele is good to cut into, and make thin the thick and slow humours, to open obstructions, to bring down the *Courses*, to provoke urine, and to free the vessels from all matter that stop them: and all these things it performes by manfest qualities inherent in it, and not by the ponderosity, or heavinesse thereof, as some have conjectured.

Severall Authors have devised severall preparations of it; but we alwayes used to prepare it after this manner following.

Take a pound of Steele filed into a most fine dust, wash it in *Pennyroyall* water distil-

led,

led, till the water look pure and cleare, then put it into a glasse Viol, pouring upon it a sufficient quantity of Vinegar, made with *Penniroyall* : set it in the Sun thirty dayes, stirring it about every seventh day, afterwards dry it, weare it to a most subtle powder in a Marble morter, sift it, and keep it for your use; the *Dose*, or quantity hereof to be taken, is a dram with *wormewood* wine, or *Rhenish* wine, or with *Hydromel*.

Note, that we advisedly make use of the vinegar aforenamed, because the use and vertue of *Steele* is to unlock obstructions; and Vinegar hath a faculty to penetrate, make thin, and cut asunder the thickest humours, and therefore by the help thereof the *Steele* is with the more expedition transmitted to the remotest parts of the body.

Yet if the patient be troubled with a hot distemper in her *Liver*, *stomack*, *or spleen*, or if you discerne any weakenesse in her inward parts, then prepare the *steele* with *Rose-water*, or *whey* of *Goats* milke.

When she hath taken the *steele*, let her walke an houre after it; for exercise opens the pores, and thereby the Medicine is the more easily distributed: when she hath observed

ſerved this injunction, let her lie down till ſhe begin to ſweat, or if ſhe finde in her ſelfe a diſpoſedneſſe, let her ſleep: afterwards give her to eat, but her meat ſhould rather be roſted, then boyl'd, and for her drink, allow her ſmall wine, or wine prepared with *ſteele.*

I doe not judge it meet to determine any time for the continuance of theſe Rules, and precepts, onely in generall, I hold it convenient to uſe them, till the Patient be more apt, and diſpoſed for exerciſe, till ſhe can walke without any lazy complaint of wearineſſe, till her lips begin to look of a more lively colour, till no obſtruction be perceiveable by the touch, and in a word, till the urine, which was thin, pale, and diſcoloured, appeare reddiſhlike unto the urine of a healthfull woman.

The Spring time is the moſt convenient to undertake this Cure; for then the humours are moſt apt to flow, which in the Winter are congealed, and impacted in the ſeverall parts; and in the Summer time it will not be altogether ſo proper to begin the Cure, for then thorough the immoderate heat of the ſeaſon, the humours doe daily threaten to precipitate the ſick woman into a fever.

If the woman be weake in her body, let her refraine from exercise, and rest her selfe upon her bed, and after the space of a full houre, let her body be diligently rubbed, till it looke red, that the faculties of the *steele* may be actuated, and assisted in their operation; for *Galen* in his book *de Puero Epileptico* and the fourth Chapter saith, that the rubbing of the body supplies the want of exercise, because it attenuateth and cuteth the humours, unlocks the obstructions, quickens, and kindles the naturall heat, and dissolves the peccant matter.

Many mingle *steele* prepared with *Conserves*, and *Syrups*; Some make *Lozenges* thereof, and so doe we also; especially when the Patient refuseth Wine, or *Conserves*, and the like: for in some cases we must allow pardon to the queazinesse of the sick, and humour the Palate with a safe indulgence.

The powders *Diarhod. Abbat*, *Dialacca*, and *Diacucurma*, are very good to open the passages which are stop't, and therefore you may prudently mingle them among the ingredients for the *Lozenges* aforesaid.

Here perhaps you will start this question; if heat provokes to stoole, and brings down the urine, if it attenuates, cuts in-

to the humours, and open the obstructions; why doe Physitians unanimously command the staying of a looseneſſe, or an Issue of bloud, in what part of the body soever it happen, and to that intent prescribe water, or wine, or beer, wherein *steele* hath been quenched, thereby to make it more binding, and more apt to stay any *flux?* I answer, that *steele* is indued with those qualities I readily grant; but the Method which is observed in the use of *steele* doth cleerely demonstrate a diversity of faculties to be in it: wherefore if your aime and intention be to open the obstructions, drinke the wine when the *steele* hath been once, twice, or thrice quenched in it; but if you desire it should binde, then prescribe it to be taken after the sixth, or seventh quenching; for the first water or wine openeth, because in that lieth the fiery quality; but the other bindeth, because in that consists the earthy part: neither shall you need to wonder, that severall and contrary qualities should lie concealed in one, and the same minerall, mettall, or simple, seeing that by daily experience we have a demonstrative certainty of the truth thereof; for thus *Aloes* hath an *Emplastick* and an opening quality:

ty: thus *Rubarb* both binds and purgeth.

Now you must note that these Simples are called hot and cold, as they have hot or cold parts predominant in them: thus we conclude *endive* to be cold, because the parts thereof are more moist then bitter, and we say *Rubarb* is hot, because it hath a *nitrous*, fiery, purging quality predominant in it, above the earthy, binding, and cold parts.

*Christopherus a Vega*, a man otherwise very learned, seemes to my understanding to forsake the offers of reason, in saying that *steele* is unprofitable, because he never saw any woman, who had not her *Courses*, or who was troubled with obstructions, cured by the meanes of this Remedy; but truly, if it doth not sometimes totally subdue the evill, yet the fault must not therefore consequently be charged upon the Medicine, because the *Matrix* is sometimes vitiated by an habituall distemper, or else the obstructions thereof are so many, or so stubborne, that sometimes they destroy the sick woman; and if it doe not fall out so, yet is it an undeniable truth which the Poet tells us,

*Non est in Medico semper relevetur ut Æger,*
*Interdum docta plus valet arte malum.*

That is,
The Doctour cannot ſtill ſucceſſefull be,
Sometimes the evill gets the victory.

## CHAP. III.

### *The immoderate flowing of the Courſes.*

THis diſeaſe is contrary to the former; for as in that the *Menſtruum* is too long retained, ſo in this they run too long.

There is alſo this difference between them: the one proceedeth from a hot diſtemper, the other from a cold one.

This we now treat on, is produced by a twofold cauſe, the one inward, and the other outward.

The inward Cauſe is a hot diſtemper of the *Liver*, whereby the bloud growes hot, thin, boyling in the veſſells, and opening them, ſo that the *Menſtruum* is purged out, before the uſuall and due time.

The outward Cauſe is that which heateth and inflames the bloud, and withall makes it thin, as vehement and ſturdy exerciſes, penſiveneſſe, and immoderate cares of the minde, exceſſive anger, and thoughts buſied upon revenge: a cuſtome of eating meats

meats that are hot in their quality, namely, such as are full of pepper, and salt, bibing of wine, and strong drinks, too much bathing of the body, long watchings, siting in the Sun overmuch, or by the fire side, &c.

You may easily make your selfe acquainted with the signes by conversing with, and questioning the sick woman, besides, you may of yonr selfe observe, that the Patient is much weakned, in regard that the parts are deprived of the purest portion, and the most laudable substance of the bloud, by which the life of a Creature is prolonged; women thus affected are very sad, and melancholy, by reason that the bloud faileth, which otherwise containes a spirit in it, that makes them cheerefull and lively, they grow leane and feeble, scarce able to stand upon their legs, they are apt to Nauseate, and forsake their meat, they are bound in their bodies, and grow puft, and swel'd up; they are troubled with weakness in their stomacks, they cannot digest their meat, their eye-lids sink inwards, the calfes of their legs swell, and their outward parts look pale, and discoloured: yea, by degrees the whole radicall moisture, and inborne preservative de-

cayeth and the Patient periſheth.

Wherefore make no delay, but immediately oppoſe all your helps of Art to the ſubduing of the Diſeaſe; let her be lodged in an ayre that is cold and dry, and let her not be expoſed to any ayre by night: ſtrew coole hearbs about her chamber, and let her avoid the ayre which is hot, becauſe it rarifies the bloud, makes it thin and waterish, and alſo inflames, and overheats it.

She muſt forbear the uſe of hot meats, as *Leeks*, *Onyons*, *Watercreſſes*, *Origanum*, and the like; let her likewiſe refraine from feeding upon ſpiced meats, and ſuch as breed a thin juyce; *Rice* boyled with *ſheeps-feet* is good for her: and ſo are roſted *Quinces*, *Medlars*, and *Services*.

Three houres after Supper, let her take fine *flower*, or pure *Biſket* diſſolved in *Plantane*, or *Roſewater*, and ſweetned with *Sugar*.

Give her no wine, unleſſe it be ſowre, and binding *red* wine; but it will be more profitable to give her water, wherein *gum tragacanth* hath been boiled, and perfumed with *Maſtick*, *beere* in which *ſteele* hath been infuſed will be profitable for her, about the third, or fourth day, for this drink hath

hath a binding faculty without heating.

But the opening of a vein twice, or thrice in a day, obtaines the preheminence from all other remedies, according to the judgment of *Galen*, because it drawes back the humour more forcibly to the upper parts when it is often repeated, then when it is done all at once; heare him in his own words. *Quantò majorem in numerum particulares auxeris detractiones, tantò efficaciorem revulsionem efficies*, that is, the oftner you open a vein, taking away a small quantity of bloud at a time, so much more effectuall will the Revulsion be; for when the bloud is allured to the contrary part by these frequent iterations; Nature is accustomed to summon the bloud to the upper parts; and thus that ordinary saying among the Doctors may properly be understood, that one *flux* cureth another.

*Hippocrates* commendeth a large *Cuppinglass* applied to the breasts; and very deservedly, because there is a great consent and *Simpathy* between the veins of the *Matrix*, and those of the Breasts.

Moreover, you must prescribe such things as are of tried, and known vertue, to thicken the bloud, syrup of *Poppy*, *Quinces*, dried *Roses*, *Myrtles*, and the like.

We usually prescribe this Draught following for the sick, and we must add this to its commendation, that it seldome faileth in its operation.

Two scruples of boiled *Rubarb.*
A scruple of *Citron myrobalans.*
Halfe an ounce of syrup of *Quinces.*
Two ounces, and a halfe of *Plantane* water.
Mingle them, and let her drink it.

Divers Authors, as *Rondeletius*, *Hollerius*, *Amatus Lusitanus*, and others condemn the boiling of *Rubarb*; and the reason is this, as things say they, become more milde, and weake in their operations, when they have past the fire; so those things which are gentle, become more vehement, having acquired a new kinde of faculty by the force of the fire: this I grant most willingly, but in the meane time they purge lesse, and binde more, which we desire, and as for any corrupt quality, which the power of the fire may have contributed to it, that is easily washt away by the help of *Plantane* water, or the juice of *Quinces*, if you demand whither this humour should be prepared? I answer, evacuate it without any delay, for you must not expect, or wait the concoction thereof.

Binding

Binding *Glyſters* will be very uſefull; you may make them after this manner.

Take foure drams of the roots of *Conſolida major.*

The leaves of *plantane* and *horſetayle*, of each a handfull.

Halfe a handfull of *red Roſes.*

Two drams of ſhaled *Peaſe.*

Boile them in a ſufficient quantity of *plantane* water, to nine ounces; to the ſtrained liquor add a dram of the *Trochiſchs de Carabe*, two ounces of ſyrup of *Roſes* made with dried *Roſes.*

The whites of two *Eggs.*

Mingle them, and make a *glyſter.* Or

Take foure drams of the greater *Comphrey* roots.

The leaves of *knotgraſſs*, and *plantane*, of each a handfull.

As many *red Roſes* as your thumb, and two fingers can take up.

*Sumach* and *Quince ſeeds*, of each two drams.

Three drams of *barley* parched, and beaten to a groſſe powder.

Boile them in a ſufficient quantity of *plantane* water to nine ounces.

To the ſtrained liquor add two ounces of ſyrup of *Myrtles.*

A dram of *terra sigillata*.

Mingle them, and make a *glyster*.

After these *glysters* are injected, anoint the *Matrix* with astringent ointments; Take as many *plantane* leaves as you can grasp between your thumb and two fingers at twice.

*Red Roses*.

*Mulberry* leaves.

*Oake* leaves, of each halfe the quantity aforesaid.

A dram of *Sumach* seeds.

Boile them gently in foure pints of oyle of *Quinces*.

Straine and presse the liquor hard, and then put in

True *Bolearmanick*,

*Trochisches de Carabe*, of each a dram.

With a sufficient quantity of *white wax*, make a soft ointment, according to art, or

Take two ounces of *unguentum Comitisse*.

Oyle of *myrtles*, and oyle of *quinces*, of each two drams.

Mingle them, and make a *liniment*.

You must likewise bath the *Matrix* with *fomentations* made after this manner.

Take the leaves of *plantane*,

*Knotgrasse*,

*Oake* leaves.

Red

Red *Roses*, of each a handfull.
The seeds of *plantane*, *Sumach*.
*Quinces*, of each three drams.

Boile them in a sufficient quantity of red *wine*, or water wherein *steele* hath been quenched to three pints: use the strained liquor as was said above.

That which remaines after the straining may be kept for a *Poultis*, unto which you may add oyle of *quinces*, and *unguentum Comitisse*, of each two ounces, and mingling them together, you have an excellent *Poultis*.

But if the disease yield not to these Remedies, you may exhibit half a dram of new *Treacle*, or *Philonium Persicum*, or a scruple of the masse of Pils *de Cynogloſſa*; if the Patient incline to a *Consumption*, give her Cowes milk prepared rightly with *steele*, to drink in a morning fasting; if the evill still persevere, and you suspect the heat of the *Liver* to be the Cause of the disease, make an issue in her leg, that the *Liver* may exhale at that vent, and the other bowells may evaporate, or else let her goe into a Bath, the waters whereof run from an iron Mine; for these naturally binde and thicken.

CHAP. IV.

## CHAP. IV.

### *Of the coming away of the Courses by Drops, of the vehement Symptomes thereof, and of the Whites.*

AS the urine irritates the *expulsive* faculty, so many times doth the *Menstruum*, for as that, when it is too hot, doth prick, burn, and is frequently pist out, so the *Menstruum* being vehemently hot, doth cause an itch, and an irritation, and produceth a *Disease*, which the Doctours call *Stillicidium Uterinum*, which we may english, to be a coming away of the *Courses* by drops.

The *Disease* proceeds from the same Causes, as doth the immoderate flowing of the *Courses:* therefore the same Remedies will be also proper to overcome them; yet in this present cure you need not prescribe so many Remedies, nor so often.

When any notable Symptomes accompanie this *Disease*, as a vehement burning, torments in the *Matrix*, a paine about the secret parts, it is called the *Stillicide*, or Dropping of the *Matrix*, from a sharp humour,

mour, ariſing through the hot diſtemper of the *Liver*, and the *Kidneys*; and whereas it takes beginning from a hot diſtemper, from whence ſharpe, hot, and fiery humours are generated, your Method muſt be firſt to root out the Cauſe, and then to cure the diſtemper; wherefore her body muſt be cooled, her bloud muſt be thickned, and the *Flux* muſt be drawn back to the upper parts; this is done by a coole Ayre, by giving her whey to drinke, wherein *ſteele* hath been often quenched; and laſtly, you may preſcribe for her the cold thickning Dyet, which we have ſet down above.

You may let her bloud in both armes, and appoint the opening of the veine called *Salvatella*; *Leeches* muſt be applied to the *Hemorrhoids*, that the *aduſt* and *melancholly* bloud may be drawn out. Purge her often with *Rubarb* and *Caſſia*, Syrupe of *Violets*, *Citron Myrobalans*, *Manna*, *Tamarinds*, *Diaprun. ſimpl.* and the like Simples which gently bring away *choler*. Cooling and thickning *Juleps* will be very neceſſary, which you may make after this manner.

Take twelve ounces of *plantane* water.

Foure ounces of *Roſe water*.

Two ounces of Syrupe of the juice of *Quinces*.

Mingle

Mingle them, and make a *Julep*, or

Take the waters of *Plantane*,

*Purselane*, of each eight ounces,

Syrup of *Poppy*,

Syrupe of *restharrow*, of each an ounce and a half.

Mingle them, and make a *Julep*.

If the chiefest fault lie in the *Kidneys*,

Take ten ounces of *Bean* water distilled.

The waters of *Plantane*.

*Mallowes*, of each two ounces.

Syrupe of *Myrtles*.

Syrupe of *Poppy*, of each an ounce.

A scruple and a halfe of *Lapis Prunelle*.

Mingle them, and make a *Julep*.

But note, if the Patient have a hot *Liver*, and a cold stomack, it will be convenient to lessen the quantity of the distilled *mallow* water, or to prescribe an equall part of *Rose* water, the vertue whereof strengthens the inward parts.

Baths made with binding Simples, are highly profitable in this *Disease*; for they doe not onely attemper the sharpnesse of the humours, but they drive the humours to the outward parts, and so defend and fortifie the *Matrix* from that annoyance, which they threatned unto it, and in a while the *Flux* is stayed.

*Whey*

*Whey*, although it be *Diureticall*, and provoke urine, yet when *steele* is quenched in it, it is wonderfull wholsome for her: as *Hippocrates* affirmeth concerning the Son of *Erotelaus*, lying sick of a bloudy *Flux*, for when he had drunk *whey*, in which red hot *flints* were quenched, his evacuations were more moderate, although they were bloudy, and in a short time they ended; here is to be noted, that *whey* although upon a slight consideration, it may seeme to be *Diuretical*, and so to provoke rather then to stay the *flux*, yet if *steele* be frequently quenched in it, till the thin and fiery parts thereof be wasted away, it stayeth the *Flux*.

If these Remedies prevaile not to perfect the Cure, I shall counsell you to make an Issue upon the knee, for this being kept open, the corrupt humours are evacuated, without any decay of the spirits, which otherwise doe many times produce grievous and vehement Symptomes; we have spoken of the coming away of the *Menstruum* by Drops, with the terrible Symptome which accompanies it, namely, a vehement and insupportable paine, but because this paine proceeds from divers causes, the Cure must be also diversified.

Women therefore which are of a cold Constitution,

Constitution, especially if they be young, prone to *Venery*, Black, and Hairy, must be purged, that the Cause may be taken away, and therefore their bodies must be first prepared before you can hope to appease the paine.

You may evacuate the humour with *Diaphenicon*, *Benedicta laxativa*, or with Pills of *Hiera:* and you may prepare the humour with *smallage*, and *fennill* roots, with *agrimony* and *Motherwort* leaves, boiled in water wherein *steele* hath been quenched with *Rhodomel.*

The paine must be appeased with *unguent. Populeum*, unto which you may add a few graines of *opium*; or else you may apply *fomentations* to the head.

A vein also must be opened, as we have shewed you above.

If a woman or Virgin have the *whites*, which come away of a thick and fattish substance, you must proceede as in the former Cure; but you must be exceeding cautious how you let bloud, for such bodies are full of raw humours, by reason whereof the spirits are much exhausted, and her body is weake and infirme, according to the Judgement of *Galen*, in his book *de Sanguin. missione. chap.* 11. wherefore in such cases,

cases, I counsell the Patient to goe to the *Spaw* waters, or some other of the like Nature; for they purge away the thick humour both by siege and by urine, but especially the melancholy juice, which is the cause of this disease.

A *Decoction* of *China* and *Salzapavilla* cannot be improper, nor *Leeches* applied to the *Hemorrhoids*. Note that the *Caul* of a *Ram* or *Weather* newly killed, must be laid to the affected part, being first anointed with oyle of *Castor*; for as the skull of a man is good against the *Falling Sickness*, and the *Lungs* of a *Fox* against the stoppage of the pipes, by a specificall vertue, or hidden similitude, so is this good for the stomack, and the Loynes.

The *Whites* are defined to be a lasting distillation from the *Matrix*, however it be affected; for Nature indevoureth to expell that superfluous, moist, and excrementitious bloud thorough the *Matrix*, and even at the same time disburtheneth the body from this unprofitable and offensive humour.

This evill is reckoned among the Symptomes of those things, which are immoderately expelled out of the body, the Causes whereof are divers; for sometimes a pre-

dominancy of *choler*, sometimes a *phlegmatick* juice; many times *melancholy*, and very often bloud is evacuated; this is easily known, because a snottie kinde of humour drops, and distills continually from the *Matrix*, which if it be red, it proceeds from bloud; if white, from *phlegme*, if yellow, it takes beginning from *choler*.

The sick woman complaines of a general weakness over all the parts of the body, her legs and eyelids are swelled, she cannot digest her meat, her stomack failes her, she is lazie, and loves no exercise, and cares not to stir up and down; so that at length her strength decayeth, and her spirits faile, through the abundance of bloud which hath come from her: wherefore this disease calls for early help, least it degenerate, as not seldome it doth, into a *Dropsey*, or a *Consumption*, or the like terrible Diseases.

If the body therefore abound with much bloud, let a veine be opened in the arme, to draw back the course of the humour, which is hastening from all parts of the body to the *Matrix*. Thus we read that *Galen* cured the wife of *Boetius*, unto whom other Physitians had prepostrously prescribed Medicines without opening a veine.

Afterwards

Afterwards you must prepare the *phlegmatick* humour with a decoction of *wormewood*, unto which add *Syr.* of *Roses*, or *Syr. de artemisia*, the *cholerick* humour must be prepared with a decoction of *endive*, *sorrell*, unto which may be added *Oxysaccarum*, or *Syrup. de succo Cichorii*; if it be a *Melancholy* humour, prepare it with a decoction of *Fumitary*, *Buglos*, unto which add *Syr.* of *Fumitary*, and *Syr. Lupuli.*

Then expell the humour with some gentle purge; if it be *phlegmatick*,

Take three scruples of white *agarick Trochisht.*

Two scruples of the root of *Mechoacha.*

A dram of *Annise* seeds.

Macerate them the space of a night, in a sufficient quantitie of *fennill* water; in the morning to two ounces and a halfe of the liquor which you presse out, add

Three drams of *Diacarthamum.*

Halfe an ounce of *Diacnicum.*

Mingle them together for a Potion.

If *Cholerick* humours abound in the body,

Take two drams and a halfe of the best *Rubarb.*

*Citron myrobalans.*

*Cinamon*, of each a scruple.

Macerate them a whole night in a sufficient

ent quantity of *endive* water, presse them with all your might, and add

An ounce and a halfe of Syrupe of *roses laxative.*

Mingle them, and give it her to drinke in the morning.

If *Melancholy* humours be predominant.

Take two drams and a halfe of *Sena.*

A dram of *Annise* seeds.

Macerate them over night, in a sufficient quantity of *fumitary* water, in the morning presse out the liquor, and add

To two ounces and a halfe of the liquor strained and prest,

Two drams of *Confectio Hamech.*

Halfe an ounce of Syrup of *fumitary.*

Mingle them for a Potion.

If the Disease yield not to these Medicines, expell the humour by an *Epicrasis*, that is, by some *Decoction*, that by degrees will digest, open, and evacuate the humour, and also mightily provoke urine; this *Apozem* following hath all these vertues.

Take the roots of *Parsly*,

*Fennell*,

*Euglos*,

*Polypody* of the *Oake*, of each halfe an ounce.

The leaves of *Maidenhaire.*

*Agrimony*,

*Motherwort*,

*Motherwort*, of each a handfull.
Six drams of *Sena*.
Two drams of *rubarb*.
One dram of *agarick*.
As much *Epithymum* as you can graspe between your thumb and two fingers.
Two drams of *Annise* seed.

Macerate them together a whole night, in two pints of *barley* water, upon hot embers, in the morning allow them one or two gentle bublings, and when you have strained them, add

Syrupe of *fumitary*.
Syrupe of *roses laxative*, of each an ounce.
Mingle them for an *Apozem*.

Every other morning let her have foure ounces of it fasting.

If all these things prove ineffectuall, infuse a whole night six graines of *Antimony* in wine, and let her drinke it, if her body be strong enough to abide the conflict of the medicine: for besides that, it draws back the humours from the *Matrix*, by provoking to Vomit, it likewise purgeth away by stool that tenacious, *phlegmatick*, and thick humour which is the cause of the Disease.

*Wormewood* beere is not unwholsome for her, or instead thereof, prescribe to her, beer wherein *China* roots have been infused,

for this disperseth the humour to the skin, and dries up the superfluous moisture; for the same purpose, we advise, with *Galen*, that a Bath of hot sand be prepared; that after the use thereof the body be well rubbed, and anointed with honey heated by the fire; then, as we prescribed above, make an Issue in her knee.

## CHAP. V.

### *Of the Complication of the Menstruum, with other Diseases.*

THe *Complication* of the *Menstruum* with other Diseases is hard to be known, and not easie to be cured; for if any woman be sick of any Disease, and if her *Courses* be suppreſt, or appeare not, the Physitians are at a stand, what is most fit, during this Judication, to be done, for if we follow the motions of Nature, who worketh rightly, and open a vein in the ankle, this will not cure the Disease, which is rooted in the upper parts.

And if you draw bloud from the arme, you pervert the course and order of Nature, to the great disadvantage of the sick woman.

woman. But you will say, in such a case as this, what is to be done? I shall tell you in few words.

The Disease is either vehement, or moderate, and of long continuance; if the *Courses* appeare, or come down, in a disease of long continuance, you may defer the opening of a vein till a more convenient season, be it either a vein in the arme, or in the ankle, which you intended to cut, for you can doe no hurt by omitting, or at least suspending this remedy.

But if the Disease be acute, and require a speedy evacuation; you must observe whither the *Menstruum* be answerable to the plentie of bloud which abounds in the body; if her *Courses* come down, according to the prescription of *Hippocrates*, you must not be busie, but leave the whole matter to Nature; of the same opinion is *Galen* also, for, saith he, if at that time when you are letting bloud, it should so fall out, that her *Courses* come down, or that she should on a suddeu have the *Piles*, you must desist from *phlebotomy*, and commit the whole businesse to Nature, if you are satisfied that the *Menstruum* commeth away in a sufficient quantity; but otherwise take from her so much bloud, as may make

good the deficiency of her *Courses.*

But if a burning *Fever* be upon her, if she have not her *Courses* according to custome, and to the satisfaction of her own desires, then this defect must be supplied with medicines, by opening a veine in her ankle, applying *Cuppinglasses* with scarification to the calfes of her legs, or *Leeches* to the *Hemorrhoids*, to take away the superfluity of the bloud.

One thing must be considered, namely, if a woman after her delivery have a burning *Fever* upon her, her *Courses* actually flowing, whither it be lawfull, in regard of the vehemence of the *Fever*, to open the upper veines? *Fernelius*, *Valeriola*, *Amatus Lusitanus*, and divers others of good account, assent the lawfulnesse and expediency thereof; for although some have imagined, that if the upper veines be opened, the bloud will ascend to the upper parts; yet if it be true which they imagine, more profit and advantage will accrew thereby to the sick woman, then hurt or danger; for when a veine in the ankle is cut, although it bring down the *Courses*, and supply the defective motion of Nature, in respect of the part particularly affected; yet is it not equally prevalent against a most vehement inflammation,

mation, nor altogether so profitable in a most acute disease; because the bloud must be drawn out from some vessell, that is nearer to the part affected, that the conjunctive cause may be taken away, and although by cutting a vein in the ankle, we can draw the whole masse of bloud out of the body, yet the bloud is not so fitly taken from one part, as from another; for in a *Quinsey*, or a *Pleurisey*, 'tis more commodious to open the *Basilick* veine to temper the heat, then any other veine in the whole body.

## CHAP. VI.

### *Of hard swellings in the Breasts.*

THe Breasts are naturally thin, spongy, or fungous, and loose; for this reason they are apt to entertaine any crude, and *melancholy* humours, flowing to them either from the *Matrix*, or from any other parts; these, if they are not rightly, and duly expelled, they breed painefull, yea malignant and cankerd *Ulcers*: wherefore you must addresse your selfe to the Cure, without any truce or delay; and this consists

sists in three things; in prescribing a Diet, in the manuall operations of *Surgery*, and in outward and inward Medicines.

Let her therefore make choise of a pure ayre, let her drink be small beer boiled with *annise* and *snakeweed*; let her meat be of good concoction, and easie distribution, as *Mutton broth*, *Cock broth*, and rosted *Chickens*; let her avoid meats that thicken the bloud, as *milke*, *cheese*, *bacon*, *fish*, and the like; open a veine, if she have not her *Courses*, in her ankle, or cut the *Basilick* veine twice or thrice, to ease the *Liver*, the *Spleen*, and the *Kidneys*, as the multitude of bloud shall require it.

Note that the humour must be prepared, and attempted with this *Apozem*.

Take the roots of *Succhory*,
*Polipody*, of each an ounce.
The barke of the root of the *Caper*, and *Tamarisk* tree, of each halfe an ounce.
The leaves of *Buglos*,
*Fumitary*,
*Balme*, of each a handfull.
Two drams of *Fennill* seeds.

Boile them in a sufficient quantitie of *barley* water to two pints, and to the strained liquor add

Syrupe of *Borage*,

Syrupe

Syrupe of *fumitary*, of each an ounce and a halfe.

Ten graines of Spirit of *Vitriol.*

Mingle them, and make an *Apozem.*

Because the humour is thick and dreggish, you must purge her body severall times, till it be perfectly cleansed, this may be done with this decoction following.

Take an ounce of *Polypody* of the *oake.*

The leaves *Fumitary*,

*Hops*,

*Borage*,

*Endive*, of each a handfull.

*Epithymum*,

*Century* the less, of each halfe a handfull.

Boile them in a sufficient quantity of *Barley* water, to two pints, and in the strained liquor infuse a whole night,

An ounce of *Sena.*

Foure drams of *Rubarb.*

*Agarick Troch.*

Creame of *Tartar*, of each two drams.

*Epithymum*, and

The flowers of *borage*, *buglos*, and *rosemary*, of each as many as you can graspe between your thumb and two fingers at twice.

Two drams of *annise* seeds.

In the morning give it one or two bublings,

lings, straine and presse it, and to the liquor, add

Syrupe of *violets.*
Syrupe of *fumitary*, of each an ounce.
Make an *Apozem*, or
Take the leaves of *buglos*,
*Fumitary*, of each a handfull.
*Balme*,
*Germander*, of each halfe a handfull.

As much *Epithymum*, as you can containe between your thumb and two fingers.

Boile them in a sufficient quantitie of *whey*, to a pint, and a halfe, infuse for a night in the strained liquor

Six drams of *Sena.*
Two drams of white *Agarick.*
A dram and a half of *annise* seeds.

In the morning presse out the liquor hard, and add

Syrupe of *Violets*,
Syrupe of *fumitary*, of each an ounce and a halfe.

Mingle them for an *Apozem.*

*Confectio Hamech* and *Diacricu* will be highly profitable; so also are Pils *de Lapid. Lazuli.*

Sometimes you may prescribe *glysters*, to temper the *melancholy* humour; as for example.

Take

Take the leaves of *Mallowes*,
*Marishmallowes*,
*Violets*, of each a handfull.
Halfe a handfull of *bran*.
Two drams of *fennill* seeds.

Boile them in a sufficient quantitie of *barley* water to nine ounces: in the strained liquor put in

*Confectio Hamech*,
*Diacatholicon*, of each an ounce.
An ounce and a halfe of oyle of *violets*.
Mingle them, and make a *glyster*, or

Take half an ounce of *Polypody* roots.
The leaves of *bugles*,
*Fumitary*,
*Violets*, of each a handfull.
Foure ounces of *sena*.

As much *Epithymum* as you can take up, between your thumb and two fingers.
Two drams of *fennill* seeds.

Boile them in a sufficient quantitie of *Cock broth* to nine ounces, to the strained liquor add

*Diaprun. Laxativum*,
*Confectio Hamech*, of each an ounce.
Half an ounce of Syrup of *Violets*.
A dram of *Sal gemme*.
Mingle them, and make a *glyster*.

*Leeches* applied to the Fundament may much promote the Cure. The

The event may likewise gratifie your triall, if you prescribe *Cordials*, *Treacle*, *Mithridate*, *Lozenges* of Pearle, *Alkermes*, and the like: which with their coldnesse, drynesse, and cordiall vertue, retaine the spirits, correct the bloud, even when it is putrifying, and preserve the bowells in their due Symmetry, and naturall constitution; Note, that you may not forget to wash her legs, with a decoction of *Hops*, *Violets*, *Fumitary*, *Roses*, *Mallowes*, and *Vine* leaves.

If by the advantage of time it prove a cankerd, and a creeping *Ulcer*, you must not vex, and discompose the Patient with many, or strong Medicines, but you must institute a palliative Cure; for *Galen* boasteth that he thus cured a woman, who had a *Cancer* in her breast, for when the thinner part was brought away, it became thicker, more full of putrefaction, and subject to exulcerate; for it is undenyable, as the same *Author* affirmeth, that the vehemence of the remedies inflame the humor, and set it on fire, by that *acrimonius* quality, which is naturally in them.

Almost all Authors agree that *Issues* are convenient, for they supply the stead of *Purges*, and *Phlebotomy*, as *Guido* a good writer witnesseth in his book *de Cauteriis*.

*The end of the first Book of Womens Diseases.*

# THE SECOND BOOK, Written by NICHOLAS FONTANUS: OF Womens Diseases.

## The first Chapter. *OF the Mother.*

THat Disease which we commonly call the *Mother*, the Physitians terme the *Strangulation*, or *Suffocation* of the *Matrix*, and sometimes the Ascent of the *Matrix*. *Galen* took it to be a drawing back of the *Matrix*, to the upper parts. Hereupon some of the

the Ancients conceived the *Matrix*, to be some stragling Creature, wandring too and fro thorough severall parts, to which phantasticall conceit, *Fernelius*, *Eugenius*, and *Laurentius*, contributed a credulous Assent; for though a woman be dead, yet can you not with an ordinary strength remove the *Matrix* from the naturall place; neither is that reason, which *Fernelius* alledgeth, of any moment, who saith, that in these diseases he hath toucht it upwards, seeing that this is not the true *Matrix*, but a grosse, windie swelling, of a roundish figure, and somewhat resembling the *Matrix*; you will say the *Matrix* doth remove, and slip from its proper place; I grant it, for by reason of the moisture, wherewith those parts abound, the *Matrix* is loosened, and exceedingly stretched: and this is the truth of the whole matter.

The Cause of this Disease is twofold: the Retention of the Seed, and the *Menstruum*, which are the materiall cause: and a cold and moist distemper of the *Matrix*, breeding *phlegmatick* and thick juices, which is the efficient cause; for when the Seed is retained, and the *Menstruum* hath not the customary, and usuall vent, they burthen the *Matrix*, and choak, and extinguish the

the heat thereof: then upon the diminishing of the naturall heat, windy humours are bred, especially in the *Matrix*, which by nature is a cold, *nervous*, and bloudlesse part; after the same manner, if the seed be kept too long, it disturbeth the Function of the spiritous parts, and the Midriffe, it oppresseth the heart, causeth fainting and sounding fits, bindeth as it were, and girteth about the parts, and seemes in such a manner to stop the breath, that the sick woman is in danger to be strangled: her puls is sometimes weake, various, and obscure: she hath inward discontents and anxieties, and is most commonly invaded by, at least very subject unto Convulsion fits: she lies, as if she were astonished and void of sense: and from her belly you may heare rumbling, and murmuring noises; she breatheth so weakly, that it is scarce discernable, and indeed she is so sad an object, that the by-standers may easily mistake her to be dead. The drowsie and sleepy disease called *Carus* differs from this, because they who are affected with it, have the use of their breath free, without any molestation: and it differs from a *Catalepsy* (another drowsie disease, casting the sick into a profound and dead sleep) be-

cause they who are taken with that, lie without any motion, but they who have the mother, are tormented with *Convulsion* fits, their legs and their hands are stretched and wrythed into unusuall figures, and strange postures; and by this it is distinguished from an *Apoplexy*, unto which it is exceeding like.

*Galen* wondreth how these women can live, who are troubled with these cruell fits of the *Mother*, without any puls, or breathing, in as much as it is impossible for one that liveth not to breath, or for one that breatheth not, to live; for so long as we live, so long we breath. To this I answer, that although these women live without respiration, yet doe they not live without transpiration; for this being performed thorough the pores of the skin, by the motion of the *arteries*, conserves the symmetry of the vitall heat; for then that small heat retiring to the heart, as to a Castle, may be preserved by this benefit of transpiration alone.

Now to procure an assurance, whither the woman be living or dead, hold a feather, or a looking-glasse to her mouth, if the former stir, or the latter be spotted, it is an undoubted signe that she liveth.

This

This is a moſt acute Diſeaſe, and ſoone diſpatcheth the ſick woman, eſpecially if it took beginning from ſome very contagious, and poiſonous vapours; lecherous women, and luſty widowes that are prone, and apt to *Venery*, are moſt ſubject to it: but married women that injoy the company of their husbands, and ſuch as are with childe, are ſeldome invaded by it.

You muſt apply your Remedies in the fit, and after the fit: in the fit, the humour muſt be drawn back with rubbing the parts, tying painfull *Ligatures* about them, and applying *Cuppinglaſſes*, with *ſcarification* to the calfes of her legs: have ſuch *Glyſters* in readineſſe, as will take away the paine, diſſolve, draw back, and purge out the thick humours: you may compound them by theſe formes following.

Take halfe an ounce of *Elecampane* roots.

The leaves of *rue*, *penniroyall*, *Motherwort*, and *pellitory* of the *wall*, of each a handfull.

Three drams of *ſena*.

*Bran*, *Camomile* flowers, and the tops of *Dill*, of each halfe a handfull.

*Baſtard Saffron*, and *Anniſe* ſeeds, of each two drams.

Boile them in a ſufficient quantitie of

*birthwort* water to nine ounces, to the strained liquor being squeezed, and prest very hard, add

*Diaphenicon*, and *benedicta laxativa*, of each an ounce.

Oyle of *dill*, and oyle of *rue*, of each six drams.

Halfe an ounce of *butter*.

A dram and a halfe of *salt*.

Mingle them, and make a *Glyster*.

*Carminative* medicines must be laid upon the whole inward region, as *fomentations* made of the leaves of *Rue*, *Motherwort*, *Penniroyall*, the flowers of *Melilot*, and *Camomile*, or *unguent. de Althea*, with the oyles of *Camomile*, *Dill*, and *Rue*; for this loosenеth the passages by opening the pores, and expelling the winde; *pessaries* may be put up, made with *Civet*, *Musk*, and *Amber*; but you must affront her nose with stinking odours, as the steame of *brimstone*, the smoke ascending from old shoes burnt, *Partridge* feathers, *sagapenum galbanum*, *assa fetida*, and the like, cast into the fire; because the *Matrix* doth, as it were abhor, retreat, and flie from these things, whereas sweet things doe allure to them.

But some curious braine may here demand, why sweet things held to the nose, doe

doe breed the fits of the *Mother*, and on the contrary, stinking things appease those fits? I answer; sweet things applyed to the *Matrix*, in regard that they are hot, doe expell the winde, cut into the slow and tenacious *phlegm*, and afterwards purge it out: but stinking things applied to the Nose, consume the ascending vapours with their heat; but you may still demand, if hot stinking things be good to break the winde, why may they not be laid to the *Matrix*, as well as sweet things? I answer? the *Matrix* embraceth, and meeteth sweet odours and perfumes, but unsavory and stinking sents it abhors, and flies from; for 'tis a most certaine truth, that every creature, even by naturall instinct, shunneth inconveniences, and affecteth things convenient.

If the evill still increase, and if the Virgin be of a good habit, fleshie, and for a long time hath not had her *Courses*, or for too long a time hath had them: the safest course, although upon the approach of the Fit, will be to open a veine in the ankle, without delay, especially, if any *excretion* of bloud appear, either at the nose, or at the mouth; for as *Hippocrates* hath excellently taught us; as the coming down

of the *Courſes*, is a preſent Remedie for thoſe who vomit bloud; ſo in a body that is *plethorick*, by reaſon that the *Menſtruum* hath been long ſuppreſſed; you may help a woman who vomits bloud, if you cut one of her lower veines; the ſame opinion is favoured by *Galen* in his *Commentry*, ſaying, in this caſe we ought to endeavour an evacuation, namely, ſuch an one as is correſpondent to nature, when ſhe is obedient to her own lawes.

After the *Phlebotomy*, if her body be ſtrong, and the Diſeaſe continue, apply *Cuppinglaſſes*, with *ſcarification* to her thighes, *Leeches* to the *Hemorrhoids*, and with iterated *Glyſters*, and medicines given again and again into the body, purge out the *Melancholy* juices.

Many, who are more raſh then learned, more bold, then skilfull, becauſe of the cold and the winde, which are the cauſes of this Diſeaſe, at the beginning will unadviſedly be offering wine to the ſick, which being *odoriferous*, is apt to allure the *Matrix* to the upper parts; therefore I counſell all thoſe that value the health of their friends, to forbeare this *temerity*: yet if ſhe faint, and her ſpirits be ſo far ſpent, that ſhe ſwounds, or is ready to ſwound, in ſuch

an

an exigence you may allow her wine, yet in a small quantity.

When the Fit is over, let her live soberly, and feed upon hot meats. that yield a thin, and subtle nourishment, and be very carefull to preserve her self, least she fall into a Relaps; hearbs, and roots, and such thinge as thicken the bloud, or are hard to digest, must be no part of her diet, *Wormewood* beer may be allowed her, or in her beer mingle *Cinamon* water, or boile *Annise* seeds, or *China* roots in it.

The humour must be prepared with cutting Syrups, as *Rhodomell*, Syrupe of *Wormewood*, Syrupe of *Mint*, or Syrupe of the five roots.

You may prescribe the Purge of *Mechoaca*, *Hiera Picra*, pills of *agarick*, of *Hiera*, with *Confectio Hamech*, or *Sena*.

You must open a veine in the ankle again, and because this thick and stubborne humour will not obey a single evacution, you must also purge her body againe with *agarick*, *hellebore*, Pills of *Mastick*, or of *Rubarb*.

*Steele* taken in powder, or mingled among the other medicines, will much advance the Cure; so will an Issue, and an artificiall Bath made with *Sulphur*, or a de-

coction of *Salsa parilla*, *Guaiacum*, and *China*.

Lastly, if the Disease take beginning from the seed, because in Physick, no peculiar, or elective purging medicine is consecrated to it, you must lessen her diet, enjoyne her an abstinence from hot wine, and let her continually weare plates of lead upon her back; for it is most certaine, that these doe diminish the seed; if the Patient for twelve mornings together upon an empty stomack, drink three ounces of a decoction of *agnus castus* seeds, boiled with six graines of *Camphire*.

## CHAP. II.

### *Of the Epilepsy in the* Matrix, *And the severall kindes thereof.*

PHysitians reckon up a twofold *Epilepsy* in the *Matrix*; one by Consent, the other by Propriety; the Cause of this is a thick, *viscous*, and slow humour, obstructing the hollow parts of the Nerves: the cause of that is a cold distemper of the *Matrix*, and a contagious vapour assaulting, and shaking the Braine, and the nervous parts:

parts: for when the *animall* faculty strives to expell that humour, or vapour from it selfe, the hollow parts of the *Nerves* are crusht together, and the passages are stopt, and thus there happens a constipation, or an obstruction, the insides of the *Nerves* being, as it were straightned, bound, and closed up together.

That there is such a Disease, as an *Epilepsy* by Consent, we are warranted by *Galen* to beleeve, who in his book *de Locis*, propounds the example of a boy, who being lame in his legs, fell afterwards into an *Epilepsy*, and after the same manner Virgins, who are troubled with obstructions, winde, or a malignant vapour in their *Matrices*, doe frequently fall into the *Falling Sickness*.

This is easily known; for imminent windie humours, and rumblings in her belly doe presage it, her stomack swells, her mind is confused, her eyes are dim, and when she is ready to fall into a fit of the *Epilepsie*, or *Falling Sickness*, she may perceive a tingling noyse in her eares, a giddinesse, circumagitation, or turning round in her head: she is sad in her minde, disquieted in her body, troubled with the passion of the heart, and not seldome with sounding

fits;

fits; 'tis a sad spectacle to behold her in this condition, from which if she be not seasonably delivered, she is very likely to fall into an *Apoplexy*; this we have learn't from *Galen*, who in his third book *de Locis*, and 5. *chapt.* saith, *Epilepticks* doe often degenerate into a *melancholy* madnesse, and so on the contrary; for this *melancholy* mood turnes to the *Falling Sickneſſe*, when the humour invades either the body, or the minde; or if that darke vapour becloud the minde, inducing a dimneſſe, or gloominesse in the thoughts, with sadneſſe, despaire, and deep *melancholy*; if the spirits, which are bright and cleare in their own nature, be obscured with the foggy commerce of black vapours, the very presence of them dismayeth, terrifies, and discomposeth the minde: or if a confluence of those vapours assault the body, that is, the braine and the *nerves*, they produce the *Falling Sickneſſe*.

This requires a twofold cure: one in the Fit, the other after the Fit. In the Fit you must quicken and excite the *animall* faculty, and force back those poisonous vapours, that are stealing from the *Matrix* to invade the upper parts: then the winde must be expelled, the wayes kept open, and the

the thick humour must be got out of the body, by rubbing the parts, by tying straight *ligatures* about her legs, by *fomentations*, and baths, made with the leaves of *penniroyall*, *motherwort*, *thyme*, *nip*, *camomile*, *salt*, *vinegar*, and water; softning *Glysters* are so usefull, that you must not forget to inject them; you may make them thus.

Take the leaves of *motherwort*,
*Penniroyall*,
*Birthwort*, of each a handfull.
*Rosemary*,
*Mint*, of each a handfull.
Two drams of *fennill* seeds.

Boile them in a sufficient quantity of water, to nine ounces, straine and presse out the liquor, and then add

*Hiera picra Galeni*,
*Diaphenicon*, of each an ounce.
A dram of *sal gemme*.
Mingle them, and make a *glyster*, or
Take the roots of *Elecampane*,
*Restharrow*, of each foure drams.
The leaves of *Marjoram*,
*Motherwort*,
*Birthwort*, of each a handfull.
The tops of *Dill*,
*Camomile* Flowers, of each halfe a handfull.

Two

Two drams of *Annise* seeds.

Boile them in a sufficient quantity of *Barley* water, to nine ounces, to the liquor which you presse out, add

An ounce and a halfe of *Diaphenicon.*

*Mass. pill. fetidar.*

*De hiera cum Agarico*, of each two scruples.

Oyle of *Dill*,

*Camamile*,

*Butter*, of each halfe an ounce.

Mingle them, and make a *glyster.*

If necessitie urge you, and the strength of the Patient will beare it, you may prescribe a sharper *glyster*, to draw the humours from the farthest distant parts, and to imitate the nature and effects of a Purge; be this for an example to you.

Take half an ounce of *Polypody* roots.

Two drams of *Mechoaca.*

The leaves of *Sage*,

*Rosemary*,

*Betony*, of each a handfull.

Halfe an ounce of *bastard Saffron* seeds.

Two drams of *Agarick.*

As much *Epithymum* as you can take up between your thumb, and two fingers.

Boile them in a sufficient quantity of *honied* water to ten ounces, straine, and presse

presse out the liquor, and add

An ounce of *Hiera Logodii.*
A dram of the *Masse* of Pills of *Cochia.*
Ten graines of *Troch. Alhandal.*
Half a dram of *sal gemme.*
Mingle them, and make a *glyster.*

For this being a most acute Disease, requires the utmost tryalls of art, that it may not degenerate (as it is very prone to doe) into a true *Apoplexy.*

To the *Matrix* (to make a sudden dispatch of the Cure) apply *Carminitive fomentations*, and bath the privie parts, to break, and expell the winde.

After the use of the *Fomentation*, apply oyle of *Castor*, oyle of *wormewood*, and inject *odoriferous Pessaries* of *musk*, *amber*, *Civet*, made up with *gallia Moschat*, and a piece of *Cotton*, according to the secret rules of Art; to the nose you must hold stinking things, as *sagapenum*, *galbanum*, *assa fetida*, *Castor*, *rue*, and the like.

When the Fit is approaching, *Hippocrates* adviseth to open a veine in the Ankle, and this advice is magnified, and applauded by *Galen* in his book *de Rigore Chapt.* 8. neither may you forget to apply *Leeches* to the *Hemorrhoids*, or the calfes of her legs; for they will suck out the *feculent* and dreggish

dreggish humour, that is impacted in the *Matrix.*

Cordialls must be administred, as *Treacle*, *Mithridate*, *Alkermes*, *Confection de Hyacyntha*, and the like: or if you please compound them after this manner.

Take the hoofe of an *Elk.*

The wood of *Misletoe* of the *Oake*, of each two drams.

The skull of a man newly dead of some violent death.

*Hartsborne*, of each two drams.

*Pearle* prepared,

Burnt *Ivory*,

*Mastick*, of each a dram and a half.

The powder of *Rosemary*,

*Stechas*,

*Sage*, of each a scruple.

The *species Diacastor.*

*Diaccumin.* of each a scruple.

With a sufficient quantitie of *honey*, of *roses*, and Syrupe of *Stechas*, make a mixture.

If the Disease become againe indigested and crude, prescribe another Purge, of *Aloes*, *Hiera Picra*, *Benedicta Laxativa*, or *Turbith*; but that the ignorant may not be rashly precipitated into some erroneous composition, we shall limit him to this prescription. Take

Take two scruples of the *masse* of Pills *de Hiera cum agarico.*

Ten graines of *pill. fœtidæ.*

*Troch. Alhandal,*

*Diagrydium,* of each five graines.

With a sufficient quantity of Syrupe of *Stechas* make nine Pills.

Sometimes the retention of the Seed is the Cause of these Symptomes, which if they be so vehement, that the former remedies cannot tame them, proceed as followeth.

Take *Storax* in powder,

*Aloes* in powder,

White *agarick*, of each two drams.

The juice of the hearb *Mercury*,

The juice of the wild *Cucumber*, of each three drams.

A sufficient quantity of *Turpentine.*

With a piece of *Cotton* make a *pessary*, according to art, put it up, and move it up and down, till the superfluous seed be ejaculated.

If the sick woman have many Fits in a day, certaine it is, that the disease is fixt, and rooted in the Head: wherefore in such cases I have known no better remedy, then an actuall cauterizing in the hinder part of the head, from whence as from an

Issue,

Issue, that *virulent* and *luxuriant* humour which is the cause of this most dangerous disease, may at last have a vent.

In the intermission of the Fits, you must open a vein in her Ankle; this is not my counsell onely, but *Galen* enjoynes the same remedy; for in his book *de Cur. ration. per sang. missionem*, he saith; if you will prevent the *Falling Sickness*, cut the *Scyrhena*, that is the veine in the Ankle; afterwards he commands the preparation of that cold, and thick humour, which may be effected by this *Apozem* following.

Take the roots of *fennill*,
Small *Aristolochy*,
*Elecampane*, of each foure drams.
The roots of *Dittany*,
*Piony*, of each two drams.
The leaves of *Nip*,
*Penniroyall*,
*Calamint*,
*Sage*, of each a handfull,
The flowers of *Stechas*,
*Rosemary*, of each as much as you can grasp between your thumb, and two fingers at twice.
A dram of *anniseed*.

Boile them in a sufficient quantity of water, wherein *steele* hath been infused, to two pints. To

To the strained liquor add

An ounce and a halt of Syrupe of *Stechas.*

An ounce of *oxymell Scilliticum.*

Mingle them, and make an *Apozem.*

After you have prepared the humour, purge the body with this composition following.

Take two drams and a halfe of *Sena.*

Three scruples of white *agarick.*

A dram of *anniſe* seeds.

A scruple of *Ginger,*

Macerate them for a night in a sufficient quantity of *parsley* water; in the morning give them one or two bublings, and to the liquor which you presse out (I meane three ounces of it)

Add two scruples of *Mast. Pill. Fetid.*

Mingle them for a Potion, or

You may prescribe some other mixture to purge *phlegm*, and more valiantly to break and expell winde, or make ready this plaister following, to be applied to her Navell, and her secret parts.

Take three ounces of *bistort* roots.

*Lign. Aloes.*

*Sautali moschatelli.*

*Nutmegs.*

*Barbaries.*

*Dill,* of each two drams.

*Cinamon*,
*Cloves*,
*Scevanib*,
*Camamile* flowers, of each a dram.
*Male frankincense*, or *Olibanum*,
*Mastick*,
*Trochisches de Gallia Moschata*,
*Storax calimata*,
Red *storax*, of each a scruple.
Seven graines and a halfe of *musk*.
Three ounces and a halfe of yellow *wax*.
An ounce and an halfe of *turpentine*.
A pound of pure *ladanum*.
Nine ounces of ship *Pitch*.

Mingle them, and according to Art make a Plaister.

If the *contumacity* of the evill be such, as not to yield to all these remedies, make Issues in the legs, and if those also prove ineffectuall, my last recourse is to a decoction of *Guaiacum* wood, wherewith the learned *Jachinus*, as he averreth in his Commentaries upon *Almansor*, hath cured many of this Disease.

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CHAP. III.

## CHAP. III.

### *Of Melancholy proceeding from the* Matrix.

THis hath one and the same Cause with the *Epilepsy*, namely the retention of the Seed, and the suppression of the *Menstruum*, which being earthy, and not obtaining a vent, they putrifie, beget vapours, which doe not onely assault the braine, but they oppresse the heart also, and the *Midriffe*; for when a gloomy and black vapour ascends to the braine, the principall parts, and their instruments are depraved, and the animall spirit, which is the chiefest instrument of the soule, and in its own nature cleare and perspicuous, is rendred darke, and obscure.

The true signes of this disease are sadnesse, fearfulnesse, anxiety of minde, and severall figures or postures of unquietnesse appearing in the body.

They despaire, they doate, they talke idely, especially at that time when they expect their *Courses*; in these you may observe a depraved motion of the principall

Members, because the temperament of the braine is perverted by that cold and dry humour; moreover they are unwilling to dye, they cannot sleep, they have no stomack to their meat, and being taken with a strange loathing of aliment, their bodies waste and consume; sometimes they imagine that they undergoe the torments of damned soules in Hell; they weep without any cause, they groan, they lament, anon againe they laugh, desire to goe into some by corners, and according to the inward discomposure of their mindes, they turne, vary, and alter their gestures, and countenances into severall figures: sometimes they have a conceit that they are talking with Angels, sometimes they murmur, sometimes they sing; certainly there is not a more strange and wonderfull disease, for in severall persons it bewrayeth a thousand, severall, ridiculous, and antick behaviours.

He sees the difficulty of this Cure, both in regard of the Symptomes, and the stubbornesse of the disease, who understands it to be a cold and dry affect (for there is no doubt, but the braine labours under a cold, and dry distemper) and how much drienesse resisteth the best medicines, is not unknown

unknown to *Philosophers*; for as it is of a dull, and sluggish action, so are there many resistances: and from thence comes the danger, because it easily degenerates into raveing, and raging madnesse, or into the *Falling Sickenesse*, or into an *Apoplexy*, and it is held incurable, if the braine be primarily affected, because in continuance of time, it takes so deep a root, that no Magazine of Remedies, no stratagems of Art can remove it.

Wherefore you must be very carefull, when you undertake the Cure; as for her Diet, let it incline to hot and moist, assigne her a gently breathing ayre; boile her drink with the roots of *buglos*, *angelica*, and *snakeweed*; with the leaves of *hops*, *buglos*, *balme*, and *fumitary*; allow her white Wine that is small, and well sented, let her be indulgent to her sleeps, avoiding cares, pensiveneſse, and troublesome thoughts; if her body be costive, make it, and keep it soluble. *Venery* is wholsome for *melancholy* persons, provided that it be acted seasonably, and with moderation. *Hippocrates* placed the whole hope of the Cure in the evacuation of that *excrement*, commanding, as we have said above, such Virgins to marry.

To facilitate the *Revulsion*, and the evacuation of the humour, looſen the belly with moiſtning *Suppoſitories*, and *Glyſters*, obſerve their compoſition.

Take two ſcruples of the *ſpecies Hiera picra*.
Ten graines of *Troch. Alhandal.*
Halfe a dram of common *Salt.*
With a ſufficient quantity of *honey* boiled to a due thickneſſe, make a *Suppoſitory*, or
Take a ſcruple and a halfe of *Hiera Picra* in the *ſpecies.*
*Trochiſhs* of *agarick.*
*Troch. Alhandall*, of each a ſcruple.
Halfe a dram of *Sal gemme.*
With a ſufficient quantity of *honey*, according to art make a *Suppoſitory.*

Take the roots of *Elecampane*,
*Polypody*, of each foure drams.
The leaves of *mallowes*,
*Violets*,
*Balme*,
*Pellitory* on the wall.
*Mercury*, of each a handfull.
Ten good *prunes.*
Five drams of *Sena.*
As much *Epithymum* as your thumb, and two fingers can graſp.
Two drams of *anniſe* ſeeds.
Boile them in a ſufficient quantity of

*fumitary*

*fumitary* water to nine ounces, when you have strained and prest out the liquor, add,

*Diaprun. Laxat.*

*Diapœnicon*, of each an ounce.

An ounce and a halfe of oyle of *Violets*.

A dram of *Sal gemme*.

Mingle them, and make a *glyster*. Or,

Take the leaves of *Buglos*.

*Borage*,

*Balme*, of each a handfull.

Halfe a handfull of *Violets*.

Foure drams of *Sena*.

Halfe an ounce of the roots of black *Hellebore*.

As much *Epithymum* as you can take up between your thumb and two fingers.

A dram of *fennill* seeds.

Boile them in a sufficient quantity of broth, made of a *sheepshead* and guts, soundly washt before you put them into the pot, and to ten ounces of the liquor which you press out, add

An ounce of *Diaprun. Laxat.*

Halfe an ounce of *Confectio Hamech.*

An ounce and a halfe of oyle of *Violets*.

Two drams of common *salt*.

Mingle them, and make a *glyster*.

But if the Disease arise from a suppression of the *Courses*, thinke upon that *Oracle* of

*Hippocrates*, and obey his words as a sacred Law, when he saith, the true way to provoke them, is by drawing bloud from the ankle; provided that there be no reason to oppose this injunction; having so done, and laying *Leeches* to the *Hemorrhoids*, the use whereof is exceeding profitable in this disease; if the body be full, and the disease be found to be common to the whole body, open the *Basilick* veine on the right side: from whence, if an earthy and black bloud flow away, *Galen* adviseth you to take out a large quantity.

If the Patient be young, leane, black and hairy, adventure upon deep scarifications made in her back, and fasten great *Cuppinglasses* to her *arteries*.

These universall administrations being premised, and the humour being rightly prepared, it will be convenient to prescribe a Purge to cleanse her body from *melancholy*: to this purpose

Take three drams of *Sena*.

A dram of the roots of black *Hellebore*.

Two scruples of *agarick Trochisht*.

Halfe a dram of *fennill* seeds.

Macerate them in a sufficient quantitie of *fumitary* water for a night, and when in the morning you have prest out the liquor, take

take three ounces of it, and add

Three drams of *Diacatholicon.*

Two drams of *Confectio Hamech.*

Halfe an ounce of Syrup of *Violets,*

Mingle them, and make a Potion.

She must not take any Pills, for they are too great driers, both in respect of their forme, and also in regard of the *ingredients* whereof they are compounded.

But by all meanes, let her have somewhat to dispose her to sleep; as this, or the like *emulsion.*

Take the seeds of *Gourds,*

*Melons,*

*Citruls,*

*Cucumbers* of each an ounce.

Six sweet *Almonds* blanched.

Two drams of white *Poppy* seeds.

With ten ounces of a *decoction* of *Lettuce,* and *Poppy* heads, and an ounce of Syrupe of *Poppy,* make an *Emulsion,* to be taken about nine a clock at night, and at two a clock in the morning.

*Embrochations* also may be prepared for the head; you may make them of a *decoction* of *poppy* heads, *barley, roses, violets, waterlilles, nightshade, lettuce, coriander,* and *mandrake* roots.

Anoynt her nose and her Temples with this oyntment following. Take

Take halfe an ounce of *unguent. Populeum.*
Two drams of *unguent. rosarum.*
Half a dram of *Opium*, dissolved in vinegar of *roses.*
Mingle them for the use aforesaid.

Let her have cooling *Lotions*, to bath the palmes of her hands, and the soles of her feet; if the cruelty of the disease be such, as to deprive her of all sleep, prescribe this draught following; yet suspend the use thereof till you have tried other meanes, to procure rest for the sick Creature.

Take a scruple of *Philonium Romanum.*
Three ounces of *Lettuce* water.
Mingle them, and let her drink it when she goeth to bed, or

Take *Philonium Persicum*,
*Requies Nicholai*, of each a scruple.
Two ounces of a *decoction* of *poppy.*
Mingle them for a Draught.

Sometimes we use to exhibit two or three graines of *laudanum opiatum*: yet forbear this remedy, unlesse an urgent occasion prompt you to it.

Baths are most wholsome, if they be made of the *decoction* before prescribed; or else you may follow this example.

Take two ounces of *Barley*,
The leaves of *Violets*,

*Vine*

*Vine* leaves,
*Lettuce*,
*Willow* leaves.
*Mallowes*, of each two handfulls.
The leaves of red *roses*, *water lillies*, of each a handfull.

Boile them altogether, in a sufficient quantity of broth made with a *sheeps-head*, and let her bath her selfe in the strained liquor.

A Bath prepared of oyles, and sweet waters is very effectuall; so also is a Bath of *Asses* milke; for these things temper the earthy humour, mitigate the *acrimony* thereof, correct the dryenesse, and parchednesse of the skin, render the bloud more apt to descend, provoke sleep, qualifie the furious motions of the spirits, and nourish and fatten such bodies as are dryed up, and consumed. You must also comfort the heart with Cordialls, and to the same purose

Take the waters of *Borage*,
*Balme*, of each six ounces.
Syrupe of the juice of *Borage*.
Syrupe *Regis saboris*, of each an ounce.
Two drams of *Cinamon* water.
Mingle them, and make a *Julep*, or
Take Conserve of the flowers of *Violets*,
*Borage*,

*Borage*,
*Oringes*, of each an ounce.
*Confectio Alkermes*,
*Confectio de Hyacyntha*, of each a dram and a halfe.
*Species Diamargarit. frigid.*
*Species Diambræ*, of each a dram.

With a sufficient quantitie of Syrupe *de pomis Regis saboris*, adding two leaves of gold, make a mixture, or

Take the *species Letificant. Galeni*,
The *species Diambra*, of each halfe a dram.
*Pearle* prepared.
*Bezoar* stone, of each a scruple.
Two ounces of *Sugar* dissolved in *Rose-water.*

Make them into *Lozenges* according to Art.

If these remedies get not the victory, we counsell you to make deep issues upon the knee; and if the disease be inveterate, prescribe an extract of black *Hellebore*, and apply *Caustick*s to the region of the *spleen*, by the force and strength whereof, the black and cloudy humour, which sticks so close to the bowell, may by degrees be brought away.

CHAP. IV.

## CHAP. IV.

### *Of a cold Distemper, or a swelling in the* Matrix.

THe *Matrix* is sometimes swelled, either because the *Courses* are stopped, or else in regard of a continuall suppeditation of cold aliment, which generates a cold distemper in those parts: which because it cannot be simple, or solitary, therefore it presently consociates it selfe with moisture, and from thence arise thick, slow, and cloudy windes, in the very *cavernes*, or hollow parts of the *Matrix*, tormenting the woman with unspeakable paines.

The signes are a swelling below the *Navell*, neare the privie parts, slow windes, with rumbling, and murmuring of the guts, forsaking of meat, sadnesse, slothfulnesse, heavinesse in the head, and about her secret parts.

This is a grievous disease, because many times it turnes to a *Dropsey* in the *Matrix*: for, in regard that those windie humours are bread, and increased by the diminution of the naturall heat, as *Galen* hath observed

served in his book *de Sumptom. Causis*, it comes to passe, that the feeble heat, now generating winde, proceeding from a cold distemper in the *Matrix*, doth so weaken it, that instead of winde, water, or a wateriſh humour is produced.

This disease is cured by an extreame thin, and drying diet: wherefore let the ayre incline to hot and dry: but if the place be such as doth not naturally afford such an ayre, prepare it by art, sprinkling *aromaticall* things about her chamber, as *sage, nip, betony, rosemary, stechas, thyme, origanum,* and *lavender.*

Let her choise be of those dishes, which will be of good nouriſhment to the body, easie to digest, and soon distributed to all the parts, as *thrushes*, young *sparrowes*, *partridges*, *pheasants*, and *pigeons*: she may not eat the flesh, of *goats*, *Kids*, *hares*, *cowes*, *sheep*, nor *Deer*: meats made with milke are unwholsome for her: so are roots, *sallads*, and *pothearbs*: new laid *egs*, *raisins*, and *figs* may be allowed her: but command a forbearace of *chesnuts* and *almonds*; for they are thick and windy; let her eat the whitest bread baked with *anniſe*, or *fenuill* seeds, or a little *honey*; course *barley* bread, and the like, is not good for her, but nothing is more

more unwholsome for her then fruit; you may grant her the use of some few herbs, as *sparagus*, *parsley*, *alexanders*, *water pepper*, *borage*, and *buglos*.

For her drinke, give her Fountaine water, wherein *annise* seeds, or *cinanon*, or *china* roots, or the like have been boiled; but the most wholsome drink for her is *wormewood* beer.

If she drink wine, let it be sparkling and pleasant, *claret* wine mingled with water, other artificiall drinks, as *cider*, *perry*, *metheglin*, *stepona*, *Nectarella*, *Medea*, and the like are hurtfull for her.

The humour must be prepared with *Rhodomel*, Syrupe of *wormewood*, Syrupe of *mint*, and the like.

Her body must be purged by fits, for the crude, thick, and windie humour, will not be got out with one medicine; this is taught us by our great Master *Hippocrates*, who in his fourth book *de Acutis*, saith, whosoever indeavours at the beginning of a disease to dissolve, or take away an inflammation by a purging medicine, he will finde himselfe much mistaken; for whilest the part is intensively inflamed, and the affect yet crude, and unconcocted, the physick gets no victory, hath no laudable operation

ration at all: but rather it brings away ſuch things, as would have made reſiſtance againſt the diſeaſe, and ſo by this raſhneſſe, the body is weakned, and the diſeaſe gets ſtrength: which when it hath once overcome the body, becomes uncurable: therefore whenſoever you undertake to purge a body, you muſt not onely make the humours fluid, but you muſt alſo ſtay till they are concocted, eſpecially in chronicall, and long-laſting diſeaſes; this may be done by the help of this *Apozem* following.

Take the roots of *fennill*,
*Elecampane*, of each halfe an ounce.
The leaves of *penniroyall*,
*Wormewood*,
*Hops*,
*Motherwort*, of each a handfull.

As many *Camamile* flowers, as you can take up, between your thumb and two fingers at twice.

Two drams of *agarick*, *Trochiſchated*.
Half an ounce of *Mechoca* roots.
The ſeeds of *fennill*,
*Anniſe*, of each two drams.

Boile them according to art, in a ſufficient quantitie of *barley* water, to two pints; when you have preſt out the liquor with all your ſtrength, add

Two

Two ounces of *Diacnycum*.
Mingle them, and make an *Apozem*, or
Take the roots of *Polipody*.
*Angelica*.
*Hermodactyls*.
Of each halfe an ounce.
The leaves of *Hops*,
*Motherwort*,
*Fumitary*,
*Balme*,
*Betony*, of each a handfull.
Six drams of *sena*.
*Agarick Trochischated*.
The roots of *Mechoacá*, of each two drams.
Halfe an ounce of *Bastard Saffron*, seeds.
*Epithymum*,
*Camomile*, of each as much as you can take up between your thumb and two fingers.
Two drams of *fennill* seeds.
Boile them according to art, in a sufficient quantity of *Cock broth*, to two pints; presse out the liquor with your utmost strength, and add
Two ounces of Syrupe of the juice of *fumitary*.
An ounce of *Diacnycum*.
Mingle them, and make an *Apozem*.

Let her every day drink three ounces of it.

For nothing cleanſeth the *Matrix* from tenacious, and ſlimy humours, ſo effectually as *Agarick*; or which is a ſurer, and more infallible remedy againſt the *Mother*; if we may credit *Galen*, and *Meſur. Monardus*, *Coſta*, *Cluſius*, *Lobel*, and *Weckerus*, aſcribe the ſame vertues to *Mechoaca*, which is hot, and dry.

*Turpentine*, although *Galen* in his booke *de ſanitate tuenda*, ſaith, that it ſerves onely to looſen the belly, yet it purgeth, and cleanſeth all the bowells, as the *Liver*, the *Spleen*, the *Kidneys*, the *Lungs*, and the *Matrix*, from thoſe tough and ſlimy humours, which are ſtrongly impacted in them.

There are ſeverall wayes to prepare it: ſometimes it is moſt eaſily taken with the yelk of an *Egg*, ſometimes in powder, and ſometimes being reduced into an oyle, the admirable efficacy hereof frequent experience doth more and more diſcover to me; ſo that I have often adventured to give it (and with bleſſed ſucceſs) in many diſeaſes, both of the *Cheſt*, the *Kidneys*, and the *bladder*; for this cleanſeth the ſtomack from thick, and tough humours, from which part floweth the whole ſtreame of *phlegmatick* humours, it wonderfully warmeth

eth the *Matrix*, wipeth away the clammy filth which sticks about the walls of it, expelleth winde, provokes the *Courses*, and brings down urine.

You may make an excellent *Fomentation* after this manner.

Take the leaves of *Motherwort*,
*Penniroyall*,
*Birthwort*,
*Rue*, of each a handfull and a halfe.
*Rosemary*,
*Sage*,
*Betony*, of each a handfull.
The flowers, of *Camomile*,
*Stechas*, of each halfe a handfull.
The tops of *Dill*,
*Wormewood*,
Of each as much as you can take up between your thumb and two fingers.

Boile them in white *wine* to foure pintes; use the strained liquor for a *Fomentation*, and with sponges dipt in it, bath all about the bottome of her belly, her groiny and her privie parts.

After the *Fomentation*, apply this admirable oyntment.

Take oyle of *laurel*,
*Wormewood*, of each an ounce, and a half.
Oyle of *Castor*,

*Earthwormes*, of each an ounce.
In these oyles boyle gently
The powder of *aromaticum rosatum*,
*Wormewood*,
*Sage*,
*Lignum aloes*, of each a dram and a halfe.
A dram of red *Corall*.
Straine, and presse out the unctious substance, and add
Three drams of yellow *wax*.
Mingle them, and make an oyntment.

If you augment the severall *doses* of the aforesaid hearbs prescribed, for the *Fomentation*, you may make a halfe Tub: or you may lay on the plaister *pro Matrice* ('tis sold in the shops) *aromatized* with *Diarrhodon Abbat.* and *Diamoschus dulcis*, or instead thereof apply the plaister *Tachamacha*, or *Catanua*. Antidotes may not be omitted, as *Treacle*, and *Mithridate*. Excellent *Lozenges* may be made for her of *sugar*, with the *species Diamoschus*, *Diagalanga*, *Diacinnamomum*, or *Diacuminum*, or if you please, prescribe this mixtue following.

Take the roots of *Elecampane* candied,
*Ginger* candied, of each an ounce.
Conserve of the Flowers, of *Sage*,
*Rosemary*,
*Orenges*, of each six drams.

Halfe

Halfe an ounce of conserve of *borage.*
The *species aromaticum rosatum,*
*Diamoschus,* of each a dram, and a halfe.
With a sufficient quantity of Syrupe of *Wormewood,* mingle them for your use.

If these medicines doe not overcome the disease, let her use *minerall, sulphureous* baths, or the like.

*Zacutus Lusitanus* saith, if you take the durt in the bottome of one of these baths, and lay it upon the *Matrix,* it is as divine a medicine against the cold affects of the *Matrix*; but in these words of his, I conceave there is more of ostentation, then of truth.

If the evill yet persevere, we used in the next place to prescribe sweating remedies, of *guaiacum, china* and *sassaphraz* roots to be administred, as we have already shewed in the foregoing cures; and afterwards we make issues that the *Matrix* may exhale.

Now let us consider what must be determined in this case concerning *Phlebotomy*; some will say that in a bad habit of the body, in a *Dropsey*, in the trembling *palsie,* and the like, where there is a deficiencie of naturall heat, no man will adventure to let bloud: seeing that when the bloud is diminished, the heat is also lessened, and

the crude humours become so much the more crude: this was *Avicens* feare, as is manifest by these words of his: beware least you precipitate your Patient into one of these extreams, either into an ebullition of *chollerick*, or an indigested abundance of cold humours; this we confesse to be true; yet not so, but that sometimes (all other administrations being rightly and duely premised) with *Galen* we may take away bloud by fits, then exhibit *Mellicratum*, Then againe open a vein, either the same day, or the day following, as the disposition of the matter shall dictate to your reason; we leave much also to nature her selfe, who many times concocts the thick humours; the veine in the ankle must be opened, if women are thus affected; but when men are troubled with these windy humours, the *Basilick* vein is the most proper to be opened.

## CHAP. V.

### *A Schirrhus in the* Matrix.

A *Schirrhus* in the *Matrix* is a hard, and stony swelling, bread of earthie humours,

mours, and of a thick and *melancholy* blood retained in the body.

This is either produced by a cold distemper in the *Matrix*, or else it proceeds from a weakness in the upper parts from whence thick humours doe arise.

This disease is very easie to be known, because in those who languish under it, the *Matrix* appeareth hard in the circumference, like unto some great bowle, or a round Speare.

It differs from a swelling which is caused by winde; because in this winde is heard within, which yieldeth to the touch, and is moved from place to place: but a *Schirrus* is a hard unmoveable swelling, of a black colour, and sometimes of a palish, wan colour, if any phlegmatick humour be mixed with it.

It differs from an inflammation in the *Matrix*, because in this there is a burning *Fever* conjoyned, and other signes which manifest an inward fiery Disposition.

This is a *Chronicall* Disease, continuing many times beyond the space of a yeare; for the *Matrix*, not being numbred among the more noble parts, doth better endure these molestations; it is also a contumacious affect, despising ordinarie remedies, and

if you oppose such as are vehement, it degenerates into a *Cancer*.

After this sometimes followes a *Dropsey* in the *Matrix*, which when it is much hardned, becomes void of sense, incurable, drawing the neighbouring parts into consent with it, and so weakning them, that many times the Creature perisheth for lack of warmth and cherishing heat.

She must forbeare all those things, that yield a thick juice, and what these things be we have already in good part told you; for her drink, allow her a mixture of wine and water, in which *tamarisk* roots, or the barke of the *Caper* tree have been boiled.

The first *regions* of the body must be gently cleansed, and then that humour which nourisheth the swelling, must be rooted out with some peculiar and elective medicine; if it proceed from a suppression of the *Courses*, or *Hemorrhoids*, open a veine in her ankle, or open the *hemorrhoidall* veines with *leeches*: but if it arise from some fault in the *Liver*, or the *Spleen*, cut the *basalick* veine.

Having thus shewed your selfe carefull of the whole body, you must in the next place be solicitous of the affected part; first by applying such things as will gently mollifie it, as the fat of a *hen*, the marrow

of

of a *deare*, or of a *calfe*, with *ammoniack*, *Storax*, or *bdellium*: or with discutient *fomentations* after this manner.

Take an ounce of the roots of *Polypody* of the *Oake*.

The barke of the root of the *Caper* tree.

The barke of the *tamarisk* tree, of each halfe an ounce.

The leaves of *wormewood*,
*Sage*,
*Savine*,
*Penniroyall*, of each two handfulls.
*Balme*,
*Motherwort*,
*Hops*, of each a handfull.
The seeds of *broome*,
*Fennill*, of each halfe an ounce.

Boile them in a sufficient quantity of water wherein *steele* hath been quenched, to six pints and bath the affected part with the strained liquor; This oyntment following hath a like *efficacy*.

Take *unguent. Agrippe*.
*Unguent. Martiatum*, of each an ounce.
Halfe an ounce of *unguent. de althea*.
Oyle of *wormewood*,
*Capers*,
*Dill*, of each three drams.
Mingle them, and make an Oyntment.

Plaisters

Plaisters also are very profitable.

Take *Diachylon cum gummis*,
*Emplastrum de meliloto*, of each an ounce.
Mingle them for the use aforesaid, or
You may make ready this plaister following.

Take *ammoniack*,
*Sagapenum*, of each an ounce.
*Opoponex*,
*Bdellium*, of each halfe an ounce.

Dissolve them in strong wine vinegar, thicken them to the forme of a hard oyntment, and then add

The powder of *ireos*.
*Ceterach*,
*Auripiguentum*, of each a dram.

With oyle of *Capers* make a masse of plaistering stuffe, and spread it upon a piece of leather, cut into a convenient forme.

If these medicines availe not, prescribe sweating drinks for her, made with *Guaiacum*, *China*, and *Salsaparilla*; for as *Fallopius*, an Author of good account, saith, *Salsaparilla* hath a soveraine faculty to dissolve a *skirrhus*, or any hard knotty swelling.

*Sulphureous* Baths are also most excellent in their operations.

Some commend a poultis made of *Goats* dung; for this draweth away the winde, strengthens,

strengthens, and mollifies the part afflicted, and consumes the thick matter, whereof the *schirrus* is bred. I usually made it after this manner.

Take three ounces of *Goats* dung.
Meale of *Lupines*,
*Fitches*, or *Vetches*, of each two ounces.
An ounce of *Bran*.
Half an ounce of *Sulphur* in powder.

With the sharpest and strongest vinegar, wherein *steele* hath been ten times infused, make a Poultis.

*Steele* is commended by all Authors, it mollifies and opens the *Matrix*; quickens the naturall heat of the upper parts, and brings down the *Courses*, the stoppage whereof is the undoubted cause of this disease; this, as hath already been declared at large, is taken many wayes, either in water, or in the forme of a *Bolus*, or in *Lozenges*, or in powder, or in some conserve, as it shall seeme good to the Physitian, and most acceptable to the sick womans palate.

Issues will be profitable; for whatsoever slimy, or clammy humour doth daily fall downe, more and more from the upper parts into the *Matrix*, findes a passage out of the body againe, so long as these are kept open.

CHAP. VI.

## CHAP. VI.

### *Of the Dropsey in the* Matrix.

WE affirme with *Galen*, that an universall *Drosey* can by no meanes be generated without the fault of the *Liver*, seeing that the first instrument of *sanguification* is the author of the bloud, which if it faile in its action, 'tis no wonder if water and winde be generated in the body, instead of laudable and pure bloud.

But we confesse with *Hippocrates*, that a particular *Dropsey* may be produced without any fault in the *Liver*; thus there is a *Dropsey* of the Chest, in the Foot, the Finger, the Arme, the *Matrix*, which we our selves have often seen; the Cause thereof is a wateriſh swelling, rising in the hollow parts of the *Matrix*, partly by reason of the suppressed *Menstruum*, and partly by some violent labour, or some vehement Abortiveneſſe, or by some cold distemper, and winde in the *Matrix*.

The swelling is discernable by the touch: and if you lay your fingers upon her *Matrix*, the print of them remaines: if the Patient

tient turne her selfe from one side to another, the wateriſh humour immediately falls down on that side; within you may perceive a rumbling noiſe of waters, her *Courſes* are ſtopped; ſhe falſly ſurmiſeth that ſhe is with Childe: the breaſts grow lank, and there is no appearance of milke.

She feeles ſome difficulty to fetch her breath; ſhe is troubled with paſſions of the minde, ſhe is tormented with thirſt, complaines of heat in all the parts of the body, is apt to nauſeate, ſubject to a paine in her heart, and all other things moleſt her, that uſually accompany a true *Dropſey*, and that in regard of a ſalt and wateriſh phlegme, retained in the hollow parts of the *Matrix*, and communicated thorough the common wayes to the upper provinces of the body.

It differs from an inflammation in the *Matrix*; becauſe this is conſociated with a *Fever*, continually burning all the parts of the body: but in a *Dropſey* of the *Matrix*, the heat is more gentle and temperate; all things are lockt up in the *Matrix*, that is, nothing worth the mentioning comes from thence in an inflammation: but in a *Dropſey* a wateriſh, ſlimy and ſtinking excrement floweth away.

This is a *Chronicall* Diſeaſe, and doth not quickly

quickly either destroy, or take leave of the Patient.

It differs also from the windinesse which swells the *Matrix*, for in that the swelling is not so great, the flesh is not so pale and shining, neither is there so much winde, and it is easily differenced from a *Schirrus*, for in this you may feele a great hardnesse, but in the *Dropsey*, the flesh is soft and lanke.

The *Dropsey* in the *Matrix* is a direfull disease, whereby the upper parts being vitiated, sometimes the whole body is drawn into consent, and then the naturall heat of the *Matrix* is diminished, and indeed the *oeconomy* of this part onely is not disturbed, but the universall strength of the influent heat is by degrees extinguisht.

Wherefore you must begin the Cure without any procraftination, or careleſſe delayes, by a heating and drying diet; the forme, quantity, quality, and manner whereof, we have set down already at large, in the Chapter of a swelling in the *Matrix*.

Allow her pure wine for her drinke; that is sincere wine; or else *wormewood* wine; or if it seeme pleasant to her, boile *china* roots, with *Anniſe* seeds, *Cinamon*, and

*Agrimony*

*Agrimony* in water, for her to drink; or alter her beer with *China*, or *wormewood*, or *Century*.

All moist things must be avoided: and the ayre must be artificially heated, unlesse you can settle her in an ayre, which is naturally hot.

Among the universall remedies you must omit *Phlebotomy*, for this exhausts the hot substance, and weakens the naturall heat, cooleth the body, extinguisheth the inborne preservative; yet this rule is not so strict, or so generall, but that sometimes it may be lawfull, yea necessary to cut a veine, when her *Courses* are suppresst, or when the *Piles* are stopt: yea, if she be young, and in the flower of her youth, it may be requisite to let her bloud in the spring of the yeare, especially if the constitution of the weather be agreeable, and the constitution of her body temperate, and *sanguine*, but otherwise never, or at least very sparingly, and that in the Ankle.

Purge the first regions of her body with *Diasenua*, *Mechoaca*, or *Diaphenicon*, the thick, *viscous*, and wateriſh humours, nevertheless, being first prepared, specially with such remedies as we have commended unto you above, and although the wateriſh humours may

be

be purged out, without ſtaying for their concoction, becauſe water neither concocts, nor waxeth thick, according to *Galen*, in his book *de purgand. Med. Facult.* yet to expell the winde, and to open the obſtructions, wherewith the upper parts are infeſted, I praiſe thoſe things which are good to break winde, to unlock the paſſages, and to purge out the humours; this is commodiouſly performed with *wormewood*, *agrimony*, *fennill*, *Maidenhaire*, the juice of the *Florentine Flowerdeluce*, *Sena*, the roots of *Parſly*, *Fennill*, *Sparagus*, *Butchersbroom*, and *Alexander*, boiled after this manner.

Take the laſt named five roots, of each half anounce.

Three drams of *danewort* roots.
The leaves of *wormewood*,
Water *agrimony*,
*Maidenhaire*, of each a handfull.
Six drams of *Sena*.
An onnce of the juice of *Ireos* roots.

Boile them in a ſufficient quantity of *Barley* water, to two pints, unto the ſtrained liquor clarified with the white of an *Egg*, add

Two ounces, of Syrupe *Byzant. ſimpl.*
An ounce of Syrupe of *wormewood*.
Mingle them, and make an *Apozem*.

When

When the humor is prepared, exhibit pills *de Hiera cum agarico* to the quantity of a dram. *Antimony* warily administred, is a divine medicine, and so are the *Trochisches Alhandal*; for these irresistably bring away those thick and clammy humours, which stick so fast to the *Matrix*; afterwards the *Matrix* must be strengthned, and the windy humours must be expelled, with *Lozenges* made according to this manner.

Take the Electuary *Diacinnamomum*,
*Diagalanga*,
*Dialacca*, of each halfe a dram.

Two ounces of *sugar* dissolved in *Cinamon*-water.

According to Art, make them into *Lozenges*, or

Take an ounce of old *Treacle*.

Two drams of *aromaticum rosatum*.

With a sufficient quantity of *Syrup* of *wormewood* make a mixture.

The Oyntments, Plaisters, and Poultisses, which are mentioned above, must be applyed to the secret parts: issues also and *scarifications* will be convenient, as we have already taught; *Pessaries* likewise may bee made after this forme following.

Take *Troch. Alhandal*,
*Troch. de agarico*,

The best *Aloes* of each two drams.

A dram of *Elaterium*, which is the juice of the wilde *Cucumber* inspissated.

The yelke of an *Egg*,

Unsalted *Butter*,

The juice of *Mercury*, of each three drams.

With a sufficient quantity of *wax*, a piece of *Cotton*, and a piece of *taffata* make a *pessary*.

This being administred, apply the *Fomentation* following to her privie parts.

Take *danewort* roots newly gathered.

The roots of the *Florentine Flowerdeluce*,

The roots *Cucumer. asicrin.* of each six drams.

The flowers of *Camomile*,

*Melilot*, of each two handfulls.

A handfull of the tops of *Dill*,

*Juniper* berries,

*Laurell* berries, of each halfe an ounce.

Boile them in a suffiicient quantity of *wormewood* water distilled, to foure pints, to the strained liquor add

Oyle of *Lillies*,

*Laurell* berries, of each three ounces.

Use it as was said above.

## CHAP. VII.

## CHAP. VII.

### *Of the falling down of the* Matrix.

THe *Matrix* sometimes falleth down upon the lower parts, and this disease the Physitians call the Descent of the *Matrix*; this is resembled to a *pare*, or a *goose-egg*, as it is small or great; as there are many Causes of this disease, namely a hard labour, and a frequent bringing forth of children, miscarrying, a bringing away of the dead child, some fall from on high, hard riding, or immoderate dancing, yet there is one, in my judgement, more common then any of the rest, namely too much moisture in that part, whereby the *Matrix* becomes soft, and loose; 'tis needlesse to set down any signes whereby to know this disease: for of it selfe it is conspicuous.

Yet in the meane time you must not let passe any opportunity of help, because it is accompanied with a diuturnall *Fever*, many times with *Convulsion* Fits, and a trembling of the parts.

Wherefore if the disease proceed from an excesse of moisture, prescribe a drying diet;

and open the *basalick* veine for *Revulsion* sake.

A purge must by no meanes be granted her, for 'tis exceeding hurtfull, because it precipitates the humours to the part affected, and there breeds an inflammation; but a Vomit is very proper in this case; because by drawing the humours to some other part, it doth derive them from the *Matrix*.

When you have done these things, labour to settle the *Matrix* in its former place, and to this purpose the woman must be laid upon her bed, with her legs stretched out, then the *Matrix* must be gently bathed with mollifying *fomentations*, afterwards to the end it may not fall down againe, rub the parts well, tye *ligatures* upon her armes: yea, apply stinking things to her *Matrix*, as *assa fætida*, *galbanum*, *Castor*, and stinking pisse: but to the nose hold sweet things, as *musk*, *civet*, and *amber*.

When you have thus done, dry up the moisture, digest the slimy humour, and expell the winde with this *Fomentation*.

Take half an ounce of *tormentill*.
The leaves of *wormewood*,
*Mint*,
*Sage*,
*Fenniroyall*, of each two handfulls.

The

The flowers of *Camomile*,
Red *roses*, of each a handfull.
Burnt *alum*,
*Live Sulphur*, of each three drams.

Boile them in sowre red *wine* to three pints, and with the strained liquor bath her secret parts.

After the *fomentation*, lay on this plaister.

Take two ounces of *Emplastrum pro matrice.*
*Pitch*,
*Gummi laranne*, of each a dram.
Two drams of the *Trochischs de Gallia Moschata.*
The powder of red *roses*,
Red *Corall*,
*Acornes*, of each a dram and a halfe.

With a sufficient quantity of *wax* make a Masse and spread it upon a piece of leather cut into a convenient forme.

If it cannot be reduced to its naturall site and position, by the dexterity of the hand, but begins to mortifie by the inclemency of the ayre, cut it off, and afterwards fasten it by actuall *Cauterizing*, onely be carefull of some ligaments, and feare not the incision, because it is none of those principall parts, without which we can live no longer, but it is a part intended by

Nature for Conception onely and generation. *Avicen* reports of some women, who lived eighteen yeares without a *Matrix*; and the possibility hereof we affirme to be true upon our owne experience.

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## CHAP. VIII.

### *Of an Itch, Clefts, Chaps, and an Inflammation in the* Matrix.

AN Inflammation in the *Matrix* is a preternaturall swelling, arising from a hot bloud, or from the suppression of the *Menstruum*, in the hollow parts thereof.

The Causes of this swelling are either inward or outward; the inward Causes are a great plenitude or fulnesse of the whole body, begot by a hot distemper of the *Liver* and the veines.

By the vehemence of this distemper, the bloud it selfe is compelled in a large proportion to the *Matrix*: and thus the retained bloud, being no wayes able to get out, either putrifies, or else without putrifying, produceth an inflammation: sometimes also an *Ulcer* in the *Matrix*, or clefts, or chaps, or the *Piles*, doe most speedily

dily draw the bloud unto them by reason of the paine and heat.

The outward Causes are a fall, a blow, a stroke, a hard labour, immoderate coition, and the like, which weakning the *Matrix*, the bloud flowes unto it, and settles there without resistance; after this inflammation in the *Matrix*, there followes an acute *Fever*, bred of the putrifaction of the bloud, which *Fever*, *Galen* saith, must be numbred among the continuall *Fevers*.

She complaines of a great paine in her head, by reason of vapours ascending from her *Matrix*: also her eyes ake, and her neck is drawn to one side, her stomack is affected by consent with nauseating, vomiting, and a griping paine; and from hence many times proceeds a paine in her back, and idle talking; the excrements are suppressed by the compression of the straight gut, and from hence comes a difficulty to make water, or a pissing by drops.

Every one knoweth how dangerous, and mortall this disease is, by reason of the consent, which it hath with the parts aforesaid: wherefore you must presently addresse your selfe to the Cure; first prescribing a thin and cold Diet, which *Hippocrates* enjoynes to be observed in all *Fevers*,

and inflammations, and afterwards opening a veine.

Many Physitians have been puzled to finde out *Galens* meaning, who first commands the *Basilick* veine to be cut; Secondly, the *Saphena*, or veine in the ankle, but the reason is obvious; for whereas in the beginning of the disease the body is full, he prescribed the opening of the *basilick* veine to expedite the *Revulsion*: otherwise he had drawn the humours by a precipitate motion, to the part affected, and so superinduced an inflammation.

When this is done, he proceeds to lessen the predominancy of the bloud, by cutting a veine in the ankle, and not without sound reason: for by the proximity, or nearnesse of that part, the labouring parts are sooneſt disburthened.

A Purge is in this case inconvenient, by reason of the inflammation of the part, and the drawing faculty of the purging simples. *Glysters* may be profitable, both to bring away the *antecedent* cause, and also to free the afflicted part from the *peccant* matter; Make them by this example.

Take the leaves of *Violets*,
*Mallowes*,
*Beet*, of each a handfull.

The

The flowers of *dwarfelder*,
*Violets*, of each a handfull.
*Roses*,
*Prunes*, ten in number.
The seeds of *Melons*,
*Cucumbers*,
*Citrons*,
*Gourds*, of each two drams.

Boile them in a sufficient quantity of whole *barley* water, to nine ounces, to the strained liquor, add

Two ounces of *Electuarium lenitivum*.
Oyle of *Roses*,
Oyle of *Violets*, of each an ounce.
Mingle them, and make a *glyster*.

To appease the paine, you may mingle *Topicall* remedies with the *Anodynall*, and apply them.

Take the leaves of *Mallowes*,
*Violets*, of each a handfull.

Boile them to softnesse, then set them into an oven, and dry them, beat them to powder, sift them, and to the sifted matter add

The whites of two *eggs* beaten together.
The meale of *marish mallowes*,
Unsalted *butter*,
Oyle of *Violets*, of each an ounce.
Two drams of *Opium* dissolved in wine vinegar.

Mingle

Mingle them, and make a Poultis, or

Take foure ounces of the crums of white *bread.*

The whites of two *egs.*

Oyntment of *Roses,*

Oyntment of *Poplars,* of each an ounce.

Two scruples of *Saffron.*

Mingle them, and make a Poultis.

This Inflammation will either be dissolved, or hasten to suppuration; you may guesse by the vehemence of the *fever*, when it will dissolve; for seeing that the greatnesse of the *fever* doth accompany the greatnesse of the inflammation; if the *fever* remit, which depends upon the inflammation, 'tis a certaine signe, that the inflammation shortly will be dissolved; but if after the universall administrations, the *fever* still continue vehement, it is a true signe of suppuration, and the rather if the paine be increased, according to that *Oracle* of *Hippocrates,* whilest Matter or Corruption is ripening, the paines and the *Fevers* are more importunate then when it is full ripe.

The proper signe of suppuration is a most vehement paine upon the privie parts; and therefore to humour the evill, and to hasten the suppuration, prescribe this Poultis following.

Take

Take the heads of white *Lillies.*

The roots of *mariſh mallowes*, of each two ounces.

The leaves of *mallowes*,

*Mariſh mallowes*, of each a handfull.

*Bran*,

*Camomile* flowers, of each half a handfull.

Twelve fat *figs*.

Boile them all to ſoftneſſe, pulp them thorough a haire ſieve, and add to the pulp

Two ounces of the meale of *line* ſeed.

Unſalted *butter*,

The oyle of ſweet *almonds*, of each halfe an ounce.

*Hogſgreaſe*,

The fat of a *hen*, of each half an ounce.

A dram of *Saffron*.

Mingle them, and make a *Cataplaſme*.

A *Fomentation* made of theſe things, and with ſponges applied to the ſecret parts, are of knowne vertue; but then note, that when you uſe it, it muſt be hot or lukewarme; for the *Matrix* being a part full of *Nerves* is eaſily offended with cold things.

When there is an itching in the *Matrix*, by reaſon of an *influx* of ſome cholerick, and biting humour, uſually there follow chinks, chaps, and clefts, all which require one and the ſame manner of cure, with an inflammation.

If

If the Itching continue long, give her *whey*, or an infusion of *Rubarb* to drink, lay cooling *Epithems* upon her *Liver*, and then wash her *Matrix* with this Injection.

Take a dram of *Trochisch. Alk. Rhasis.*
*Mallow* water.
Breast *milk* of each three ounces.
Mingle them together for an injection.

From hence, if there be occasion proceed to issues.

## CHAP. IX.

### *Of a Cancer, and an Ulcer in the* Matrix.

A *Cancer* is an uneven, blewish swelling with paine, and filthy to behold, this is twofold, either with, or without an *Ulcer*; the one hath sordid lips, from whence issueth a black corruption, unsavory and stinking; but the other, namely, that without an *Ulcer*, is called almost by all Antiquity a hidden *Ulcer*.

The cause of this is the *menstruous* bloud detained in great abundance, and afterwards dried, and burnt up to *adustion:* sometimes it is produced by a dry humour falling down from the upper parts upon the *Matrix*,

*trix*, from whence that accumulation of sordid, and blackish bloud floweth away.

You may discerne the signes by a paine about the groine, the *abdomen*, the bottome of the belly, and in the loines of her back: it is a stubborne disease: both in respect of the incommodiousnesse of the place, which is the sinke of all the humours, and also in regard of her frequent desire, and indeavour to make water, which render the medicines so moist, that they cannot stick to the part; moreover light remedies it contemnes, and vehement medicines make it worse: wherefore *Hippocrates* in one of his *Aphorismes* most wisely adviseth us, not to cure a hidden *Cancer*; because they who are cured quickly perish, they who are not cured live so much the longer; and we say the same of a *Cancer*, which is *exulcerated*, the paines whereof are greater, and doe more torment the woman, when the Cure of the *Ulcer* is attempted.

We must therefore content our selves with a palliative Cure, that the Patient may live the longer (for in the midst of misery life is sweet) this may be done by appointing a good Diet, and forbidding the use of *Melancholy* meats.

Upon the approach of the Spring, and about

about the end of *Autumne*, let her bleed from the *baſilick* veine; but if ſhe have not her *Courſes* open a veine in the ankle.

Preſcribe ſuch ſimples as are good to purge *Melancholy*, as *Sena*, *Hellebore*, *myrobalans*, *epithymum*, and *anniſe* ſeeds; Some of theſe muſt be infuſed a whole night in *whey*, and ſo ſtrained and dranke, but exhibit not ſtronger Phyſick, becauſe the humour is ſo apt to be outragious.

*Locall* remedies which are moderately cold and binding, may be applyed to the privie parts, as *roſes*, *myrrhe*, the juice of unripe *grapes* mingled with *roſewater*, *breaſt-milke*, and the white of an *egg*, or

Take *Cerus* waſh't,
*Tutia*, of each an ounce and a halfe.
Burnt *Lead*,
*Frankincenſe*, of each two drams.

With foure ounces of *oleum Omphacinum* ſtirred much, and long in a marble morter, and

Three drams of white *wax*, make an oyntment, or

Take foure ounces of *Litarge* of *ſilver* waſh't in the juice of *Pomegranets*, and for two whole dayes worne to duſt in a marble morter.

*Frankincenſe*,

Burnt

Burnt *Lead*,
*Auripigment*, of each two drams.
*Hogsgrease*,
The grease that is gathered from *sheeps* wool,
New *butter*, of each halfe an ounce.
Foure ounces of oyle of *roses*.
Foure drams of *wax*.

According to the rules of Art make an oyntment.

If any filthy matter, or bloudy corruption run from the *Ulcer*, beat the shells of *Crab fishes* to ashes (having first dried them in an oven) and strow the ashes upon the *Ulcer*, and anoynt it twice a day with oyle.

If the paine increase, and grow insufferable, inject this decoction into her *Matrix* with a Syringe.

Take an ounce of the *sperme* of *Frogs*.
The leaves of *mallowes*.
*Marish mallowes*,
*Violets*,
*Mercury*, of each a handfull.
*Coriander* seeds,
*Poppy* seeds, of each two drams.

Boile them in a sufficient quantity of whole *barley* water, to eighteen ounces; to three ounces of the strained liquor add

Syrupe

Syrup of the juice of *Pomegranets*,

*Hony* of *roſes* ſtrained, of each an ounce and a halfe.

Mingle them together, and make an injection for ſix times, to be injected twice every day.

Purge her body once a moneth with this Medicine following.

Take three drams of *Sena*.

A dram of *Agarick Trochiſchated*.

Halfe a dram of black *hellebore*.

A dram of *anniſe* ſeeds.

Macerate them a whole night in a ſufficient quantity of *fumitary* water, to three ounces; in the morning ſet them upon the fire, and after one or two bublings, add to the liquor which you preſſe out, halfe an ounce of Syrup of the juice of *fumitary*.

Two drams of *Confectio Hamech*.

Mingle them for a draught.

If her body be ſufficiently ſtrong, open a veine, yet be ſparing of her bloud; the Surgeons worke, which may be profitable, when the *breaſts*, or the other parts are infeſted with a *Cancer*, muſt in this caſe be omitted: firſt, becauſe he cannot have a full view of it, and ſecondly, being irritated by his adminiſtrations, it would caſt the Patient into *Convulſion* Fits, in regard of the

the consent which it hath with the braine, which by this meanes would presently perish.

*Vlcers* happen in the *Matrix* severall wayes, either upon the coming down of the *whites*, proceeding from an *acrimonious* and sharp humour, or else from clefts and chaps, which are not easily curable, because of the humour which insinuating it selfe, *corrodes*, and *exulcerates* the part.

The signes of an *Vlcer* in the *Matrix* are, a pricking paine about the privie parts, *fluxes* of a virulent and corrupt humour, a gentle *Fever*, idle talking, and sometimes sounding Fits.

These *Vlcers* are very hard to cure, partly because of the distance of the place, the *virulency* and *malignity* of them, and partly also, because it is so full of *Nerves*, that they hinder the coalescence, and healing of it.

The most proper and convenient *diet* which in this case you can prescribe, is that which is moderate and temperate: let her surrender her whole desires to sleepe, not fearing any excesse; hot meats must be avoided, and exercise must be forborne; but above all things, let her refuse her husband in his loving offers of Benevolence; for by heat

and motion the humours melt, and falling down upon the *Matrix*, they *exasperate* the *Vlcers*.

When you let bloud open the black vein; a Vomit may be given with security, and safety, but the event of a Purge is doubtfull: yet if you prescribe one, let it be very gentle for the reasons aforesaid.

*Locall* remedies are very proper and profitable: so are Baths, and the Injections which we have already commended to you; provided, that you add a dram and a half of the *Trochisch. alb. Rhasis*, with two ounces of *Hydromel*, and the *whey* of *Goats* milke.

If you can gather from the confession of the sick woman, that these *Vlcers* owe their beginning to the *French Pox*, having first made triall of all these remedies aforesaid, as well universall, as particular, prescribe compositions which receive *Mercury*, the severall formes whereof, if God permit, when we describe the Cure of the *French Pox*, we shall set down at large.

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CHAP. X.

## CHAP. X.

### *Of Wormes, the Stone in the* Matrix, *and the Hemorrhoids.*

THat wormes breed in all the parts of our bodies is a truth not to be denyed. The Cause of these wormes is a *viscous, phlegmatick*, raw, and cold humour, sticking by its clammineſſe to the very *Matrix*, or to the neck thereof, and by degrees putrifying.

The signes of them are a dew, or moisture upon the lips of the *Matrix*, slenderneſſe, troubleſome sleeps, an itching in the belly, and a slow *Fever*.

This is a diseaſe full of moleſtation, in regard of the *Fever*, and the want of sleep, which waſte and consume the sick Creature.

To facilitate the Cure, a dry regiment is neceſſary; meats that yield a thick, cold, and moist juice must be avoided; her beer should be boiled with *rubarbe*, *purſelane*, or *sorrell*, and you may purge her body with pills of *maſtick*, or *de Hiera, cum agarico*, or

Take an ounce of *graſſe roots*.

The leaves of *plantane.*
*Tansie,* of each a handfull.
Two drams of *citron* seeds.

Boile them in a sufficient quantity of *balme* water to a pint, in the strained liquor infuse for the space of a night

Three drams of the choisest *Rubarb,*
A dram and a halfe of *agarick Troch.*
*Coralline,*
*Hartshorne* prepared, of each a dram.

In the moring set them upon a gentle fire, allow them one or two bublings, straine them, and presse out the liquor, and then add

Foure ounces of *Diacnicu.*

Mingle them for an *Apozem.*

Every other day let her drinke three ounces of it.

You may make your injections after this manner.

Take halfe an ounce of *Dittany* roots.
The leaves of *Tansie,*
*Calamint,* of each a handfull.
Halfe a handfull of *Century* the lesse.
Two drams of *citron* seeds.

Boile them in a sufficient quantity of *bonied* water to nine ounces, add

An ounce and a halfe of Syrup of *Wormewood.*

Two drams of *aloes* in powder.

Meale

Meale of *Lupines*.

*Rubarb* in powder, of each a dram.

Mingle them, and make an Injection to serve three times, or

Take the roots of *Costmary*,

*Aristolochy*, the long, of each two drams,

*Coloquintida*,

*Aloes*,

The gall of an *Ox*, of each three drams.

Two drams of *hartshorne* prepared.

Boil them in a sufficient quantity of *wormwood water* to nine ounces, every morning inject three ounces of the strained liquor.

Or make a plaister of the things aforesaid, according to art, and lay it to the privie parts.

The same administrations will serve against the *stone* in the *Matrix*; provided that you are sure, that that is the Materiall and efficient Cause; that is a thick, slow and *viscous* humour, the other, namely the efficient, is an immoderate heat.

*Stones* many times also are generated of a corruption, or matter congealed in the *Matrix*, and grown dry; the Cause is twofold; one inward, the other outward; the inward hath already been declared; the outward is a thick, cold, and wateriſh meat, suppeditating matter to the *Concre-*

*tion* of the *stone*: as *milke*, *fish*, *pulse*, and other grosse *aliments*, as *cheese* and muddy *ale*.

The *Stone* in the *Matrix* is known by the paine in the part, and if you presse down the *Matrix* the paine is exasperated.

The woman conceives not, her *Courses* come down immoderately, and if she put her finger up her fundament, she may feele the *Stone*. Use your utmost speed and diligence to cure it; for whereas the *Matrix* is as the sinke, or common shore, into which Nature empties out all the grosse and superfluous bloud, it may be feared that that corrupt matter will turne to a *Stone*, which in continuance of time growes sometimes to such a bignesse (as we of our own knowledge can testifie) that it fills the whole capacity of the *Matrix*, and totally suppresseth the *Courses*, breeding *Vlcers* full of corruption and *purulency*.

The Cure consists in a good regiment, in the preparation of the humours, and in the evacuation and expurgation of them, to prepare the humours, give her this *Apozem* following.

Take the roots of *parsly*.
*Eryngos*,
*Fennill*,
*Alexander*, of each halfe an ounce.

The

The leaves of *Germander*,
*Violets*, of each a handfull.
White *Maidenhaire*,
*Century* the lesse, of each halfe a handfull.
The seeds of *grummell*,
*Nettles*, of each two drams.
Six drams of *raisins* pickt and stoned.
Foure drams of *licoras*,

Boile them in a sufficient quantity of *barley* water, to two pints, to the strained liquor add

Syrupe of the five roots.

Syrup of *Lemons*, of each an ounce and a halfe.

Mingle them, and make an *Apozem*.

When she hath drunk the *Apozem*, make ready this Potion.

Take the roots of *Polypody*,
*Marish mallowes*,
The leaves of *Violets*,
*Mallowes*, of each a handfull.
The leaves of *Sena*,
*Bastard saffron* seeds, of each halfe an ounce,
*Agarick Trochischated*,
*Mechoacha*, of each two drams.

Macerate them a whole night in a sufficient quantity of *Rhenish wine* to eight ounces, and boyle them gently in the morning, straine and presse out the liquor with a

strong hand, and add to it

Halfe an ounce of *Electuary Diacarthamum.*

Mingle them together, and make a Potion for two *doses* to be taken every other day.

We have already furnisht you with *Fomentations*, Poultisses, Oyntments, Plaisters, and halfe tubs to bath in, which are very serviceable in this cure; but above all things inject these *glysters* following very often, throughout the whole progresse of the Cure.

Take nine ounces of some *emollient* decoction.

*Diacatholicon*,
*Benedicta Laxativa*, of each an ounce.
Oyle of *Dill*.
Oyle of bitter *Almonds*, of each six drams.
A dram of *Sal gemme*.
Mingle them, and make your *glyster*, or
Take the roots of *restharrow*,
*Marish mallowes*, of each halfe an ounce.
The leaves of *mallowes*.
*Violets*,
*Pellitory* of the wall,
*Mercury*, of each a handfull.
The tops of *Dill*,
*Camomile* flowers, of each half a handfull.
*Line* seed.

*Fenugreek*,

*Fenugreek*, of each three drams.

Two drams of *nettle* seeds.

Boile them in a sufficient quantity of water to nine ounces, to the strained liquor add

*Diaphenicon.*

*Benedicta laxativa*, of each an ounce.

Oyle of *Lillies*,

Unsalted *butter*, of each an ounce and a halfe.

Mingle them and make a *glyster.*

When these things are done, let the Midwife put her finger up into the Patients Fundament, and artificially presse downe the belly upon the bones, that joyne neer the privie parts, that the place where the *stone* lies, may be raised up: this being dryed, put in a hooked instrument, and draw it out, as we have sometimes seen it done, but afterwards let issues made in her body be kept open.

# THE THIRD BOOK, OF Barrenneſſe, and ſuch Diſeaſes, as befall Women with Childe.

## The firſt Chapter.

### *OF Barrenneſſe, both Abſolute and Reſpective.*

PRovident Nature that ſhe might contrive the continuation of Mankinde for a long time, if not in the Individuall, yet at leaſt in the *Species*, hath imprinted in thoſe parts dedicated to generation, a vehement, continuall, and inexpreſſible

pressible appetite to propagation: and thu
by a due commixture of the womans blou
with the seed of the man, she formeth an
fashioneth a Creature in the *Matrix*, whic
at a certaine, and appointed time, she send
forth into the world compleat, and perfec
in its Conformation.

Wherefore in my Judgement, Concep-
tion is nothing else then a receiving of the
mans seed in the *Matrix*, being exquisitely
and proportionably intermingled, aptly
retained, and fully perfected, and therefore
by the rule of Contraries, we may affirme
Barrennesse to be a Depravation, or defec
of these operations.

Barrennesse is either naturall, and ac-
quired from the first Elements of the Con-
formation, or introduced by sickness; or
lastly Respective, namely in reference to
the Man, or the Woman, the first is incu-
rable; for no Physitian can correct those
errours, which Nature commits in the my-
sterious purpose of our generation; one
of these errours is the straightnesse of those
passages which lead to the *Matrix*, being
sometimes so narrow that they hinder the
right transmission of the seed into the
vessells of Generation, or if it be injected,
yet is it received with so much paine and
labour,

bour, that the *Matrix* doth neither concoct or perfect it, another errour is the wideesse of those parts, into which although he seed be duely ejaculated, yet it presenty slips out againe, becauſe the capacity f the *Matrix* is too wide; the crookedneſſe f the veſſells alſo may be another impedinent; for we may many times meet with eſting errours, as I may call them, in the vorkmanſhips of Nature; thus in one boly a double *Matrix* hath been ſeen, in anther two hearts, in a third, the *Spleen* laced where the *Liver* ſhould ſtand, and many other ſuch like recreations of Nature, as *Realdus Columbus* hath diſcourſed of them t large in his *Anatomy*.

The ſecond kinde of barrenneſſe is that which is contracted by ſome diſeaſe; for whereas the ſeed is a certaine ſpirituall ſubſtance, generated of the pureſt part of the bloud, it is neceſſary that it ſhould be concocted in a temperate wombe; but if the *Matrix* be too hot, it conſumes the ſeed, as a little water thrown into a fire, is preſently dryed up, and on the contrary, if it bee too moiſt and cold, the actions that are ordained for conception are weakned, and diſabled, becauſe cold is unprofitable, and uſeleſſe for any function: it ſhuts up the

the mouthes of the veines in the *Matrix* it renders a woman averse from, and indisposed to the pleasure of the Lawfull sheets: for a wateriſh seed cooles the *Testicles*, and makes them unapt to elaborate the seed, and make it fit to unite and mix with the mans seed; unto these impediments *Hippocrates* hath also added another which in his *Aphorisms* he calls a thick *Matrix*.

From all which it is manifest, that the temperate *Matrix* is most fruitfull, namely that which obtaines a mediocrity, approaching to no excesse, either of an active or passive quality; by the universall Constitution of the whole body, you may best discerne the temperature of the wombe, which is most fit for conception; for such women are fresh coloured, and of a rosie complexion, gentle of behaviour, affable in their cariage, merry and pleasant in their conversation, not dull and drowsie, and full of pensiveneſſe.

The third cause of barrenneſſe proceeds neither from the Nativity of the Patient, nor from any sicknes, but relates to the man, as for example; one and the same woman may have had Children by a former husband, and yet no children by a second husband, not because she is now barren, or unfruitfull,

fruitfull, but she is so called because of her husband, by whom she hath now no children, the case is likewise the same on the mans part, respectively to the woman; but perhaps you will demand a reason hereof, I answer; because the proportion and temperature of both the seeds, which ought to concur to generation, are contrary the one to the other; for the seed both of the man and the woman, if it be prolificall and fruitfull, will be of a white, and shineing colour, not thin and wateriſh, but of a thick, and compacted substance, in sent like unto the flowers of the *Dwarfelder* tree, and being put into water, it will sinke to the bottome; but that which is unfit for generation will swim upon the top of the water, and is in all respects contrary to the former; the man ought to be of a strong constitution, well set, full of *muscles*, and neither too slender, nor too thick; for those that are slender, are usually too weak to get childreu, at least such as are healthfull, strong, and lively, and those who are to grosse, are commonly of a cold temper, have a thin and slippery seed, and are more desirous of *Venery*, then able to performe it.

Barren men are commonly beardless, slow

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in imagination, and dull in practise; because their seed is cold, and containes not any spirit to tickle, and warme their Phantasies; but they sit like images, and are sad, and insociable; on the contrary, hairy men, that have *Testicles* of an indifferent size, and a well concocted seed, are cheerefull, affable, ever frequenting the young company of Maids, and Virgins, being excited by the flagrancy of their eyes to *Venereous* dalliances, and lustfull speculations.

After the same manner we must give judgement concerning women, which besides the signes aforesaide, if they be bald, and hareleſſe in the privie parts, they are suspected to be barren; but if they be rough, and full of haire, it is a signe that they are fruitfull; the wiser sort of Physitians know, that much haire is an undeniable argument of much heat, and of the strength of that heat, which driveth out those fuliginous humours, whereof those haires are generated.

Those women that have black haire, are more apt for *Venery*, then any other complexion, because they are hotter, and have their *Courses* in a more plentifull manner: which *Courses*, how conducible they are to make

make her fruitfull, is manifest to any ordinary capacity, because the *menstruous* blood is one of the Principles of our generation.

Other sorts of barren women must be referred to this Catalogue, as those that are luxuriant, and the whorish crew; the former, because by frequent coition their bodies become empty of seed, and if any at that time be ejaculated, it is not fit for generation, because Nature is not allowed time enough to elaborate and concoct it: and the latter sort conceive not, partly by reason that many, and various seeds are mingled together, and partly also by reason of their frequent cohabitation with men, whereby the neck of the *Matrix* is made so slippery, that it cannot retaine the mans seed.

It will not be impertinent to enquire at what time women begin to have their *Courses*? I answer, that for the most part, they begin when the Virgin is twelve years of age, and end when she hath attained to forty five: and in all that intercourse of time women are held capable of children; but if any Authors will affirme that women may conceive, before and after those forenamed periods of time; we also affirme, that this is not ordinary, but very rare;

let the learned Reader consult *Marcellus Donatus*, and *Sckenchius de menstruo sanguine*, in the chapter *de cita & sera Conceptione admiranda*, and he will straight demand, whither a woman can conceive without the *Menstruum*? I answer negatively; for when either Principle of Generation is defective, there can be no conception; if you still obtrude upon me, that many women have conceived without the *Menstruum*, I grant it to be true; if you speak of the outward *Menstruum*, namely that, which we call their monethly *Courses*: but if you meane it of the inward, that is of that, which runneth out of the vessells into the *Matrix* for conception sake, you are deceived; for no woman can conceive without this inward *menstruum*; you will ask againe peradventure, can a woman conceive without pleasure? and whither it be absolutely necessary that the seeds should be intermingled, and that the man and the woman should both spend at one, and the same point of time? to the first I answer, that they enjoy an unspeakable pleasure, although that conduceth little or nothing to conception; and to the second I affirme, that it is not necessary that they both spend at one time, although

I confesse that may facilitate, and much help conception, but that it is sufficient, if the seed be received into the *Matrix*, and rightly concocted; for there is in the womans seed, such an earnest, covetous, and greedie desire, to embrace, and be united with the seed of the man, that although the man spend after the woman, yet she sucks it in, and the conception is nevertheless perfect.

Thus we have declared unto you (with all possible observation of modest expressions) the Causes of barrennesse in generall; and the signes of such men and women that are unfruitfull, by which notes you may discerne the particular constitution of either *Sex*.

It would be needlesse to set down any prognostick signes, because from a true consideration of the precedent notes, you may raise an unerring determination, whither the fault be in the man, or the woman.

Let us now advance to the cure; we have said that there is a threefold kinde of barrennesse, Naturall, Respective, and that which is contracted by some disease; that which comes from the Nativity of the Patient is incurable; but that which

is comparative in relation to the woman, or the man, may have help from artificiall administrations; for if the man or the woman be unfruitfull through an excesse of the first qualities, that intemperance must be corrected; how to bring this to passe, now heare and understand; if any man thoroughly knoweth how to cure that barrennesse, which comes by sicknesse, the same man will be able to particularize every cause that introduceth unfruitfulnesse.

Now this barrennesse that happens by reason of some disease, must be cured by a distinct observation of the cause, whereupon it hath dependance; if it proceed from an *Ulcer*, that *Ulcer* must be cured; if it arise from frequent coition, the incontinent person must curb her, or his appetite; if the Ayre be a suspected cause, remove to another place; if any poyson hath got into the body, by the power and malignity whereof, the spirit which is in the seed is weakned, and dulled, you must prescribe remedies of *Bezar* stone, and apply such medicines to the privities, as have a faculty to resist poyson.

If the party be bewitched, as it often comes to passe, even by the malicious art

of the Devill, or his instruments, besides the ordinary helps, you must indeavour to subdue the evill with other meanes, as the learned *Fernelius* hath taught us in his booke *de abditis rerum causis*; for some diseases and remedies exceed the limits and boundaries of Nature.

If slenderneſse be the cause of unfruitfullneſse; you must nourish and fatten the body with meats that yeild good juyce, and with moistning baths: and you must be carefull to avoid evacuations, and all other things, which weaken the strength, and exhaust the spirits.

If fatneſse hinder fruitfulneſse; the body must be extenuated, made lean, dried, and rub'd, and all other meanes must be used to dissolve and evacuate the thick juyces; the Patient must accustome her selfe to much exercise, refraine from anger, and all passions of the minde, and content her selfe with little spleen; for these things introduce leanneſse, bring down the body, and take away all grosseneſse, and corpulency; for the same purpose also you may frequent the Bath, and hot houses, for sweating doth much extenuate a fat body. If the Affect be produced by an exceſse of the first foure qualities, as we have

already intimated, that hot distemper must be corrected by a various administration of remedies, in contrariety to that excesse; first with a cold, and moist ayre, for in such cases, a hot ayre weakens our strength, and drawes out the naturall heat to the circumference, inflames, dissolves, and enervates the faculties of the *Matrix*, and because a hot distemper cannot long continue simple, and uncompounded, but in a short space associates to it selfe a dry distemper, therefore the aliments must be moyst to resist the increase of that drought, which is not cured without much trouble and difficulty, if it be once introduced into the *Matrix*, which by Nature is a dry and nervous part; wherefore let her drinke be potentially moist, as small beer, or a decoction of *barley*, but enjoyn her an abstinence from wine, and all such meats as are spiced with *cinamon*, and *Ginger*.

Let her meat be of easie concoction and distribution, potentially cold, and moist, that is, cold and moist in their qualities, and operation, though they be actually hot when she eats them, it would be superfluous to name them, having already sufficiently spoken of them in the prece-

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dent chapters of a hot dihemper in the *Matrix*, and an inflammation in the *Matrix*.

It will be convenient to draw bloud from the *basilick* vein, in the right arme, and if the hot distemper be the cause, that the Patient hath not her *Courses*, cut a veine in her ankle.

Moreover you may prepare cooling, and moistning *Juleps* after this manner.

Take Syrup of *Violets* and water *lillies*, of each two ounces.

Twelve ounces of *Endive* water.

Six drops of Spirit of *vitriol*, mingle them, or

Take Syrup of *borage*, and Syrupe of *purselane*, of each an ounce and a halfe.

A decoction of *letuce*, with *cucumber*, *citrull*, *gourd*, and *melon* seeds, of each a dram and a halfe, take a pint and a halfe of the decoction mingled with the Syrups, and let her drink it at three *doses*.

Prescribe a Purge also to evacuate *choler*.

Take three drams of the best *rubarb*.

A scuple and a halfe of *citron* seeds.

Macerate them a night in a sufficient quantity of a decoction of *tamarinds*, to two ounces and a halfe, in the morning straine and presse them, and to the liquor

add three drams of the *Electuary Diaprun. laxative.* Halfe an ounce of Syrupe of *Violets* by infusion, mingle them, and give it in the morning.

*Whey* of it selfe is exceeding wholsome, or else you may thus compound it for your Patient.

Take an ounce of *borage* roots.

Two handfulls of *sorrell* leaves with the roots.

*Endive* and *borage* leaves, of each a handfull.

Six drams of *tamarinds.*

Boyle them in a sufficient quantity of *whey* to a quart, and in the strained liquor infuse for a whole night

Halfe an ounce of choise *rubarb.*

Two scruples of *Cinamon.*

In the morning let them bubble a little over a gentle fire, and when you have prest them hard, add

Three ounces of Syrupe of *roses laxative.*

Mingle them together for an *Apozem.*

Which is of most excellent vertue to correct the heat, and distemper of all the veynes, and principall parts; this Bath also will be very effectuall to coole the body.

Take foure handfulls of *vine* leaves.

The leaves of *mallowes*, *violets*, and *endive*,

*dive*, of each two handfulls.

A handfull and a halfe of *bran.*

A handfull of *salt.*

Boyle them in a sufficient quantity of water to eight quarts, let her hold her feet in the strained water, two or three houres together.

You may likewise prepare *fomentations* of the hearbs aforesaid, and bath the privities, the *Liver* and the *Reynes* of the back; and afterwards you may make use of this oyntment.

Take two ounces of *unguent. infrigidantis Galeni.*

An ounce of *Cerat. Santalin.*

Oyle of *roses*, and oyle of *violets*, of each halfe an ounce.

Two drams of the powder of red *corall.*

Halfe an ounce of vinegar of *roses.*

With a sufficient quantity of white *wax*, make an oyntment according to Art.

Take the liquor which is distilled out of *Cockles*, *Snailes*, or *Frogs*, mingle it with *Saccharum perlatum*, and give it her to drink, as a most effectuall remedy against this Disease.

A decoction of young *Chickens* boiled with *prunes*, and *borage* leaves, and taken every morning upon an empty stomack, doth

doth refresh the body, strengthen the spirits, moisten the *Matrix*, cleanseth away the foulnesse that groweth in those parts, and very powerfully resists the causes of barrennesse.

When unfruitfulnesse proceedeth from a cold distemper, you must observe a contrary method of cure, as for example.

The ayre must incline to hot and dry, the meat must be also potentially hot and dry: and because this cold distemper is perpetually consociated with moisture, whereby cloudy and grosse vapours get into the *Matrix*, which is cold and nervous, therefore it will be requisite to correct this coldnesse, to take away the moisture, and to consume, and dissipate those windy vapours; from hence you may gather, that this is a very frequent cause of barrennesse, and abortivenesse; and so likewise are flatulent and windy humours; for they extreamely swell the *Matrix*, so that the seed cannot be perfectly retained, neither can the child be held fast by the *Cotyledons*.

When you attempt the Cure, abstaine from *Phlebotomy*, unlesse it be preparative onely, to disburthen the oppressed vessells; when the Patient is in the spring of her yeares,

yeares, and at the Spring of the yeare, least by taking away the bloud, the spirits should be wasted, the humours should become more cold, and indigested, which otherwise, were not the bloud prodigally let out, might be seasonably concocted, and this you may observe with the learned *Fernelius*, to prescribe a Purge, before you open a veine in crude bodies, that the first region may be cleansed; if any man shall rashly proceed to a contrary course, doubtlesse with great disadvantange to the Patient, he shall pervert the right order of Nature: for when as he hath emptied the veines by *Phlebotomy*, he will fill them again with that filthy accumulation of corrupt humours, which they suck in with greedinesse from the first places, and so he shall not lessen, but double the disease; the Purge may be made as followeth.

Take a dram and a halfe of the whitest *agarick*.

Two drams of *bastard Saffron* seeds.

A scruple of *Ginger*.

Halfe a dram of *Annise seeds*.

Macerate them a whole night in a sufficient quantity of *marjoram* water, to three ounces; in the morning presse them hard, and add

*Diaphenicon*

*Diaphenicon* and *Diacnicum*, of each halfe an ounce.

Mingle them, and let her drink it in the morning.

If her body be not sufficiently open, give the same potion every third day, or else prescribe this *Glyster* following.

Take nine ounces of a mollifying decoction made with *marjoram* and *groundpine*, or *germander*, of each a handfull.

*Diacarthamum* and *Diaphenicon*, of each an ounce.

An ounce and a halfe of *honey* of *roses* strained.

Mingle them, and make a *Glyster*.

When you have thoroughly purged the body, and taken away the cause, the parts must be strengthned, and the distemper must be corrected with these pills.

Take a dram of right *lign. aloes* beaten to powder.

Two scruples of *aloes rosat.*

*Musk* and *amber*, of each a scruple.

With a sufficient quantity of *alkermes*, make thirty five pills.

Let her swallow five of them, or fewer, every morning; they are exceedingly provocative, and withall they strengthen the braine, the heart, the *liver*, and the *Matrix*; when

when the man and the woman intend conjunction, let him anoint his yard with oyle of *mastick*, and *wormewood* mingled with a few graines of *musk* and *civet*; and let the woman also anoynt her privie parts therewith, as well within as without; for by this meanes there is raised a mutuall inclination to *Venery*, and the seed is received with a greater pleasure, and is more duely retained and elaborated; reason it selfe will convince us, that sweating remedies made of *ebony*, and *Salsaparilla* will mightily help, and prepare the *Matrix*; for they expell the windy humours, strengthen the *Matrix*, and dissipate the suliginous and grosse vapours; naturall Baths are excellent for the same purposes, and so are *Treacle*, *Mithridate*, *Alkermes*, *Aromaticum rosatum*, *Diarrhodon Abbatis*, *Diamargarit. calidum*, and *Diacinnamomum*; and lastly if you desire any satisfaction from our opinion concerning Issues, we answer, that they evacuate those cold and thick juyces which daily flow unto, and settle in the *Matrix*, and therefore, as we said almost every where, we affirme the use of them to be very expedient, and conducible.

CHAP. II.

## CHAP. II.

### *Of the shapelesse lump of Flesh called a* Mola.

A *Mola* is an unprofitable and shapelesse lump of flesh, bred in the *Matrix* of the *menstruous* bloud, as the Materiall cause thereof, according to the opinion of *Galen*, in sundry places of his works.

He saith of the *menstruous* bloud, that is, such as is very thick and much hardned in the *Matrix*; but note, that he doth not here exclude the seed of the man, for every Physitian knowes that a *Mola* proceeds from a mixture of the *menstruum*, and a corrupted seed, which indeed doth somewhat indeavour Conception, but cannot perfect it: neither is there any cause of wonder that such a lump of deformity should be fashioned in the wombe, seeing that severall kindes of monsters are bred there, accotding to the variety of the humour, which floweth into the *Matrix*; he that would acquaint himselfe with the knowledge of these things, may read

*Skenkius*

*Skenkius* his Observations, and the wonderfull stories related by *Marcellus Donatus*; if also he would search into, and examine the true cause of these things, let him read *Laurentius* his book of *Anatomy*.

But why doth this breed in the *Matrix* onely of a woman, and not in some other part? I answer, because, although the bloud may congeale, and become clotted in the other parts of the body, yet it happens so more frequently in the *Matrix* of a woman, then in any other part of her body, because the *Matrix* is as the common shoore of the body, where most of the excrements are exonerated.

But why doth a *Mola* breed in women onely? I answer, because women onely have an abundance of this *menstruum*, more then other Creatures, and that their bodies are full of grosse, thick, and tenacious humours, by reason that for the most part they use a moist diet, and abandon themselves to a reproveable, and disorderly course of life. This *Mola* is of severall kindes; for sometimes it is wateriſh, sometimes windy and humorall, and sometimes againe 'tis skinnie and bloudy; this last is the most ordinary, and all Physitians have granted it, this is that which

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is most usually presented to our observation; and lastly, this is that which so often hath deceived women, who boasted themselves to be with childe, and were not, and their Physitians also who told them they were with child, when they were not.

Wherefore to avoid these common cousenages, let us be circumspect in the knowledge, and right understanding of the signes, which are a swelling, with a drawing back of the *Hypochondriacall* parts, the women grow leane, are full of paine, and very apt to long; the belly is burthened, her back aketh, her breasts swell, and her *Courses* are stopped, and that at the beginning of her conception: but afterwards in processe of time, she seemes to have the *Dropsey*, her belly is so immoderately swelled; but you may know this from a *Dropsey*; for in that the belly sounds like a Drum: the woman feeles within a kinde of fluctuation, or waving motion, and if a finger be laid hard upon her belly, the print of it remaines.

A *Mola* is distinguished from a perfect conception, by three most certain signes, that is, by the motion, by the milk, and by the time that a woman beareth her child;

childe; in the motion, because there is a great difference between the motion of a childe, and the motion or stirring of a *Mola*, because the childe kicks, and turneth about to all the parts of the bottome of the belly, but a *Mola* moveth like a Globe, now on the right side, and anon on the left; this also, if you presse down the womans belly with a gentle hand, removeth from the place, and returnes not suddenly into it againe; and from the milke you may gather a never-failing signe, because the breasts swell all the time a woman is with childe; but in the other it happeneth otherwise; the time likewise affords a never-failing signe; for if the swelling of the belly continue beyond the eleventh moneth (which is the most constant and certaine period of a womans Reckoning) and no signes of a *Dropsie* at that time appeare, you may warrant your owne confidence that she hath a *Mola*, but no childe in her belly.

This is a most dangerous disease; for many times a woman carries it in her wombe, the space of two or three yeares, and sometimes longer, insomuch that the naturall heat is suffocated therewith; moreover, in the expulsion of it, there is

no small danger, for many times it groweth to such a bigness, that it comes not away without extreame hazard of the womans life: for a great Issue of bloud ensueth, whereby the spirits being spent and exhausted, she waxeth feeble, wan and pale, and many times perisheth in the very act of expelling it.

This evill hath a twofold manner of Cure; one Preservative, to prevent the Generation or breeding of the *Mola*, and the other curative, to destroy and bring it away, when it is bred; and this last is also twofold; for the first designe must be to exclude it; and the second to save the woman in the very act of excluding it.

The Preservation consists in a due observation of these things following; the ayre she lives in must be hot and dry, and the place healthfull, being scituate towards the East: let her keep a good diet, feeding upon meats that yield a wholsome nourishment to the body, and such as are soone concocted, and distributed to all the parts: let her choice also be rather of hot, then cold meats, avoiding such as are fat, salt, and hardned with smoak, fish which breed thick, windy, and viscous juyces, are unwholsome for her;

her; she cannot desire a more wholesome drink then *Wormewood* wine, or excellent generous *French* wine: her belly must be kept open and soluble; exercise must be used, and sleep refrained: angry chidings and cares of the minde must be moderated, and all such things forborne, as dry the bloud, and diminish the naturall heat.

In the next place prepare the thick, and grosse humours with *Rhodomel*, Syrupe of *wormewood*, Syrupe of *mint*, and the like, mingled with some convenient water, afterwards prescribe this Purge.

Take three drams of *Sena*,
A scruple of *Agarick Trochisch.*
A dram of the root *Mechoaca.*
A dram and a halfe of *anniseeds.*

Boile them a short space in a sufficient quantity of pure water to three ounces: then straine and presse them, and to the remaining liquor add three drams of *Diaphenicon.* Mingle them, and let her drink it in the morning early.

If her *Courses* be stopped, cut a veine in her ankle; *Leeches* also may be applyed to the *Hemorrhoids*, but with caution and warinesse, least thereby you more and more weaken such women, whose bodies are full of raw and indigested humours,

afterwards you must purge her body again, with a scruple of *extract. Catholic.* and as much of *mass. pillul. fætidar.* and lastly, prescribe an *Apozem*, or *Decoction* to cut asunder, and evacuate the grosse and tough humours, to provoke urine, to open the obstructions of the *Matrix*, and to bring down the *Courses:* all which vertues meet together in this Composition following.

Take the roots of *smallage*,
*Eryngos*,
And *Fennill*, of each halfe an ounce.
The barke of the root of the *Caper*,
And *Tamarisk* tree, of each two drams.
The leaves of *penniroyall*, and *birthwort*, of each a handfull.
*Germander*, *Maidenhaire*, *Balm*, of each halfe a handfull.
Ten drams of *Sena*.
Three drams of *agarick trochisch.*
A dram and a halfe, or two drams of *Epythymum.*

Boile them all according to art, in a sufficient quantity of water, wherein *steele* hath been infused to a quart: when you have strained, and with a strong hand prest out the liquor, add

Three ounces of Syrup of *roses.*
Mingle them, and make an *Apozem*, or

Take

Take the roots of *Butchers broome*,
*Asparagus*,
*Polypody* of the *oak*,
And *fennill*, of each halfe an ounce.
The leaves of *Penniroyall*,
And *motherwort*, of each a handfull.
A dram and a halfe of *annise* seeds.
The flowers of *Violets*, *Rosemary*, and *Borage*, of each as many as you can take up between your thumb and two fingers.
An ounce of *raisins* of the Sun.
Boyle them in a sufficient quantity of *barley* water to a quart. In the strained liquor infuse for a night
Ten ounces of *Sena*.
Three drams of the whitest *agarick*.
Two drams of the best *rubarb*.
A dram of *Epithymum*.
In the morning let them buble once, or twice, and then to the liquor which you presse out, add
Syr. *Byzantin*.
And Syr. *de eupatorio*, of each an ounce.
Mingle them and make an *Apozem*.
Of this, or of the former let her take twice in a day the quantity of three ounces for a week together, once in the morning, and the second time at foure a clock in the afternoon.

Excellent *Lozenges* may be made of the *species Diamosch.* and *Diacinnamomum*, or you may compound them with *Treacle*, *Mithridate*, and *Bezoar* stone.

When the *Mola* hath obtained some growth, if it be wateriſh, it muſt be brought away with ſuch ſimples, as have a faculty to purge out wateriſh humours; or if it be windy, you muſt preſcribe ſuch medicines, as are of a known, and approved vertue to ſtrengthen the *Matrix*, and to expell winde; and *Carminative glyſters* in ſuch caſes will be very convenient; ſo alſo will plaiſters and *fomentations* applyed to her privie parts: but that which is humorall, ſkinny and bloudy may be overcome with the ſame remedies as are ſet down at the beginning, againſt the ſtoppage of the *Courſes*.

When Nature indeavours to expell this unprofitable burthen, and an iſſue of bloud enſueth thereupon, with fainting and ſwounding fits, then you muſt be diligent to ſtrengthen the Patient with broths made of the fleſh of *Capons*, and *Partridges*, and with ſuch things as will ſtay the bloud, and refreſh the exhauſted ſpirits; ſuch as are *Chalybeated* wine, *Sugar* of *Pearle*, *Corall*, &c.

You

You will object that wine cannot be seasonable, because by the heat thereof it makes the bloud thin, and makes it more apt to flow away in greater measure by opening the passages, rather then it can any way help to stay it. I answer, it is not guilty of this mischiefe, if it hath a reddish *Tincture*; for if good *Claret* wine be *chalybeated*, as hath bin said, besides that it nourisheth the body, it is also a binder; for it comforteth the spirits, and refresheth the whole body, which vertues must needs be profitable for, and welcome unto a Creature, who is hourely subject to faint and swound, and although it might provoke the bloud to flow, yet a greater good must be preferred before a small inconvenience, and therefore give her wine to refresh her spirits, which will be more to her advantage, then the issue of bloud can be to her prejudice, for she may perish suddenly in one of those fits, but the *flux* of bloud may be restrained by degrees.

Note that foure things require an abstinence from wine. First, an inflammation of the bowells. Secondly, a vehement paine in the head. Thirdly, a Phrensie. And fourthly, a burning Fever in a crude

disease; and of this opinion was *Galen*, as appeares in his first book *ad Glauconem*, and the 14. chapter. Moreover the Patient should be refreshed with the choicest meats, and then the *Mola* should be disposed to come forth by softning and loosning *fomentations*, made of a decoction of *marishmallowes*, *mallowes*, *motherwort*, *Mercury*, *Birthwort*, *Sage*, *Hyssope*, *Calamint*, the seeds of *line*, *marishmallowes*, *fenugreek*, *camomile*, *melilot*, and *rosemary*; in this you may dip a clout, and bath her privie parts.

But if the bloud come not away, rub her legs, and apply drie *Cuppinglasses* to the calfes of her legs, and binde most painfull ligatures about them; and in a word make tryall of all such remedies, as will draw down Nature, the humours, and the *Mola* to the lower parts.

## CHAP. III.

### *Of Womens Longings.*

WOmen are sometimes so extravagant and prepostrous in their appetite, that they refuse wholsome meat, and long after coales, chalke, a piece of

an

an old wall, starch, earth, and the like trash, which they devoure as ravenously, as a hungry Plowman will winde downe a good bag-pudding.

Now perhaps you may also long to know the cause hereof, which is no other then the *menstruous* bloud, especially if it be retained about the middle of their time, and grow corrupt; for the child in the wombe is nourished with the sweetest part of the bloud, and the other part remaining which is vitious, filthy, and dreggish, noisome exhalations, especially in the middle moneths arise from it, and in such a manner contaminate all the upper partts, that the worst things are vehemently desired, and the most wholsome refused; the signes are apparent from the depravation and irregular temper of their stomack.

This Disease is hard to cure; yet not so much in respect of the disease it selfe, as of the subject wherein it is generated, which is a woman with childe; now we know that such women must be warily, and religiously dealt withall, and unlesse it be in extreame necessity, their bodies ought not to be purged. By this unavoidable abstinence the disease is increased,

and

and the bad humour, being long retained in the body, becomes daily more and more corrupt, by the tetrous exhalations which ascend up from the pollutions of the *Matrix*: therefore having first appointed a strengthning, and drying dyet, you must indeavour to rid away that humour, with Syrup of *roses solutive*, and afterwards when the body is cleansed, and free from the humour you may prescribe a gentle Purge of *Rubarb*, which hath both a purging and a strengthning faculty; for if we may adventure our beliefe to the assertions of the best Physitians, *Rubarb* may be safely given to old men, infants, and women with childe; and *Fallopius* in his booke of purging Simples, and in the chapter where he speaketh of *Rubarb*, saith, it dries up all superfluous moisture contained in the vessells of the *Matrix*, it is a gentle cleanser, it strengthneth the Heart, and the stomack by its astringent faculty, neither need you to entertaine the vaine feares of some, who suspect that the bitternesse thereof may destroy the childe, for the taste of it is not horrible to nature, and besides the bitternesse quickly vanisheth.

There remaines another doubt to be answered;

swered; namely, whether it be more proper and advantagious to prescribe an infusion of *Rubarb*, or to give it in the substance? I answer, that it purgeth most in the substance, or body of it, expelling the humours by siege, which it doth not in an infusion, at least not so powerfully, because then it evacuates onely by the purgative vertue which is in it, and of the same opinion is the Author before named.

## CHAP. IV.

### *Of a bad stomach, proceeding from Vomiting.*

IT is a known truth, that most dangerous, direfull, and pernicious Symptomes invade women with childe, from which also forsaking of meat, and Vomiting doe afterwards follow, all which things proceed from those noysome and soggy exhalations, which are distributed into the severall parts, from the corruption of the bloud; for whereas there is a sympathy, and consent between the stomack and the *Matrix*, when any poysonous, or malignant vapour ascendeth from the

the latter, it immediately invades, and overcomes the stomack, which being weakned in the conflict, or indeavour to resist, and keep out those vapours, the functions of it are depraved, it refuseth all comfort or nourishment, or if at any time it admit any, 'tis no sooner swallowed, but vomited up againe; these are the signes of this disease, and to cure it, proceed according to the Method following. In the first place prescribe a cleansing potion.

Take three drams of *Elecampane* roots
The leaves of *wormewood*, and
*Century* the lesse, of each halfe a handfull.

Boile them in a sufficient quantity of whole *barley* water to a pint, and a halfe, to the strained liquor add three ounces of *honey* of *roses* strained, mingle them for a Potion; against the next morning prepare this purge following.

Take three drams of *rubarb.*
Two scruples of *agarick Trochisch.*
A dram of *annise* seeds.

Macerate them a whole night in a sufficient quantity of *mint* water, to two ounces and a halfe; in the morning presse them hard with all your strength, and add three

three drams of the *Electuary Diaphenicon*; if she cannot take down a Purge, let her swallow these Pills following.

Take a dram of the *mass.* of Pills *de Hiera cum agarico.*

Make nine pills, and guild them.

The next day following, give her this strengthning mixture, which doth not purge at all, and every morning let her eat the quantity of a *Nutmeg.*

Take *Elecampane* roots candied,

*Marmalade* of *Quinces*, of each an ounce.

Halfe an ounce of Conserve of red *Roses.*

Foure scruples of *aromat. rosat.* in powder.

Two scruples of *mastick* in powder.

With a sufficient quantity of Syrup of *mint* make a Confection.

After the use of these things, make this plaister following, and lay it to her stomack.

Take *lignum aloes*,

Yellow *Sanders*,

And the round *Cyperus*, of each two drams.

*Galangale*, *mace*, *cloves*,

And *calam. aromat.* of each a dram.

Common *wormewood*, *roman wormewood*, *Spikenard*, dried *mint*,

Of

Of each as much as you can take up between your thumb and two fingers.

*Mastick*,
*Storax calamitu.*
*Red Corall*, of each two scruples.
*Amber*,
*Musk*, of each a scruple.
Pure *ladanum*,
*Turpentine*, of each an ounce.
Foure ounces of white *wax*.

Make a *Masse*; whereof let him take a sufficient quantity, and spread it upon leather, and lay it to her stomack.

*Bisket* steeped in *muskadine* is excellent good for her: because it refresheth the spirits, and mightily strengthneth the stomack.

## CHAP. V.

### *Of a Pain in the Belly, the Passion of the Heart, and of sounding Fits.*

WOmen with Childe doe often feele a pain in their bellies, and this also proceeds from winde, and the malignant vapours aforesaid: neither are the swounding Fits, or the Passion of the heart produced

duced by any other causes, because the heart when it is shaken with this fuliginous, and grosse spirit, doth frequently stretch, and contract it selfe, and endeavouring to expell the evill which annoyes it, it falls into an inordinate and strange motion, like unto trembling.

Under these diseases the woman languisheth, is full of feares and frights, prone to despaire, subject to faint, can obtaine no sleep, but wasteth away daily, and waxeth leane and meager.

To take away her paine, you may administer such remedies, as will expell the winde, and strengthen the bowell; of which sort you may furnish your selfe with plenty above, in the chapter of a cold distemper, and windy humours in the *Matrix*.

You may likewise anoynt the stomack with this oyntment following.

Take an ounce of *unguent. Althææ.*
Oyle of *wormewood*,
Oyle of *Camomile*,
And oyle of *rue*, of each three drams.
The powder of *lignum aloes*,
*Mastick*,
*Wormewood*,
And both sorts of *Corall*, of each a dram.

Halfe

Halfe a dram of *aromat. roſat.* in powder.
Six drops of oyle of *anniſe* ſeeds.
With a ſufficient quantity of yellow *wax*, according to art make an oyntment.

This, or the like *fomentation* may likewiſe be very uſefull.

Take halfe a dram of *elecampane* roots.
Two drams of *lignum aloes.*
The leaves of *Rue*,
*Motherwort*,
*Sage*,
*Wormewood*,
*Mint*, of each a handfull.
*Maſtick*,
*Cloves*, of each two drams.

Boile theſe Simples in a ſufficient quantity of water to three pints, and preſcribe the ſtrained liquor for a *fomentation.*

After the uſe of the *fomentation*, clap to the ſtomack the caul of a *ſheep* newly killed. In *Spaine* the greateſt perſons, and thoſe the wiſeſt alſo, take hot bread from the oven, afterwards they ſoake it in *Muskadine*, and having ſprinkled upon it the powders of red and white *corall*, and *aromat. roſatum*, they lay it to the heart: others inſtead thereof uſe *Treacle*, *Alkermes*, and *Confect. Hiachytorum*, to all which may be added, if the evill yield not

to

to the remedies aforesaid, a little bag to be worne upon the left pap, and made after this manner following.

Take two drams of *lignum aloes.*

*Bezoar* stone,

*Muske,*

Red *corall,* of each a dram.

Red and yellow *Sanders*, of each two scuples.

The *Specie Diamosch.*

And *Diambr.* of each a scruple and a half.

With a piece of red *taffata* and *cotton* make a quilted bombast for the use aforesaid.

Mingle cordialls with her drinke; and cordiall conserves, as for example.

Take two ounces of conserve of red *roses.*

Two drams of *alkermes.*

Macerate them a night in two pints of *plantane* water, and red *wine*, in the morning straine it thorough *Hippocrates* his sleeve, that is a woollen bag, and give her now and then the quantity of a small wine glasse.

If these remedies overcome not the disease, apply an exceeding great *Cuppinglasse* to the heart; by the force whereof the windy vapour will evaporate; for although *Glysters* doe draw back the humour from the affected part, yet in reference to great

bellied women you ought to suspect the event of them, because they raise too great a disturbance by provoking nature downwards, and many times cause abortiveness; yet if the paine be insupportable, then inject *carminative glysters*, and omit all bitter ingredients, as *Hiera*, *benedicta Laxativa*, or *Scammoniata*; but to prevent all errour, prescribe this following.

Take a handfull of *mallow* leaves.
The flowers of *melilot*,
The tops of *Dill*, of each halfe a handfull.
Two drams of *fennill* seeds.

Boile them in a sufficient quantity of *barley* water to nine pints, to the strained liquor add two ounces of Syrup of *roses Laxative*.

An ounce of red *Sugar*.
Mingle them, and make a *glyster*. Or
Take the flowers of *melilot*.
And *mallowes*, of each a handfull.
*Annise* and *Fennill* seeds,
Of each two drams.

Boyle them in a sufficient quantity of broth, made with an old Cock to nine ounces, to the inward liquor add
*Calabrian Manna*.
And red *Roses*, of each an ounce and a halfe.

An

An ounce of oyle of *rue.*

Mingle them, and make a *glyſter.*

It might doe much good, if you gave her a draught of *balme* water in the morning, in which water you may ſteep *lignum aloes* the ſpace of a night, and afterwards put to the ſtrained liquor a ſufficient quantity of Syrup of *mint*; for this expells the winde, cleanſeth away the phlegme, and powerfully ſtrenghthens the ſtomack.

You muſt frequently and laborioufly rub her lower parts, tye *ligatures* about them, and apply *Cuppinglaſſes* to them, if there be no imaginable cauſe to feare abortiveneſſe, but if there be the leaſt ſuſpicion of that, omit all ſuch applications as may procure a revulſion of the bloud, nay, let me give you this caution abſolutely to forbeare them, unleſſe ſhe be taken with deſperate trembling and fainting fits, or ſwounding, in the ſpring time too, when her ſpirits require them.

You muſt cauſe her *Baſilick* veine to be opened, if ſhe be young, fleſhy, and ſtrong, for this Remedy, beſides that it letteth out the thick, dreggiſh, and black blood, it refreſheth the childe alſo, and the heart is ſweetly, eaſily, and ſafely delivered from that burthenſome humour, which did oppreſſe and almoſt overwhelme it.

## CHAP. VI.

### *Of a Cough in Women with Childe.*

MOst certaine it is, that great-bellied Women, by reason of their being with childe, have not sometimes a free vent for their crude and indigested aliments, either by Stoole, or by Urine, or by any other Emunctories of the body; these being unduly kept in the body putrifie, wax hot, and communicate noysome fumes, and vapours to the spiritous parts, which by their clamminesse, thickneſse and sharpneſse, together with the bad quality that is in them, gripe, and twitch the Woman, and force her to cough.

Some perhaps may demand, why doth this Coughing happen in the last months? the answer is obvious; namely, because in those moneths a greater plenty of excrements are lodged in the body, then were accumulated at the first.

The cause of the Cough, according to *Hippocrates*, is a viscous, thick, and tough humour, impacted in the Pipes of the Lungs; which humour sometimes also, thorough that

that consent which is between the *Matrix*, and the Chest, invadeth that part, and raiseth a Coughing: and these are set down as the true signes of this evill.

As for the *Prognosticks*, you must know that a Cough befalling a woman with childe is a bad Symptome: seeing that by the least stretching, and shrinking the *Cotyledons* or vessells of the wombe, are many times loosned, yea sometimes burst asunder, and from thence comes abortiveness.

The Cure is perfected with sweet wine, mild beere, and the frequent use of a *Ptisan*. sharp, sowre, and cold things must be avoided; meats also must be forborne which breed a thick nourishment, and are hard to digest; vehement evacuations likewise are not good; wherefore having given order for the observation of a good Diet, prescribe some gentle, lenifying medicines to provoke her to spit, as *manna*, Syrup of *roses laxative*, *Diacnicu*, and the like.

These things being administred, proceed to *Electuaries*, and *expectorating* medicines, and especially to this *Apozem* following.

Take an ounce of cleansed *Barley*.
The roots of *Aristolochy*,
*Licoras* scraped, of each two drams.
The leaves of *Asarabacca*.

*Nettles*,
White *Maidenhaire*, of each a handfull.
Two drams of *raisins* pickt.
The flesh of *Dates*.
Fat *Figs*, of each three drams.

Boyle them in a sufficient quantity of water, to two pints, and to the strained liquor, add

Two ounces of *Diacodium*.

Mingle them, and make an *Apozem*, or

You may prescribe *Lozenges* after this manner.

Take a dram of the *species Diatragacanth. frigid.*
*Diaireos*,
*Poppy* seeds, of each a scruple.

Two ounces and a halfe of *Sugar* dissolved in *rose* water, according to art make them into *Lozenges*.

Then prescribe this Conserve.

Take Conserve of red *Roses*,
*Elecampane* candied, of each an ounce.
Conserve of *Violet* flowers,
*Rosemary* flowers, of each halfe an ounce.
Two drams of meale of *beanes*.
A dram of *Diaireos*.
Ten graines of *Sulphur*.
With Syrup of *Colts foot* make a Conserve.

Meale of *beanes*, according to *Galen*, doth cleanse

cleanse and mundifie the Chest, digests the crude spittle contained in the pipes, and makes it easie to be excerned; *bean*-flower water is exceeding good for the Lungs, especially if she drinke it with Syrupe of *Maydenhaire*, or *Oxymel Stilliticum*; the same faculties hath the distilled waters of red *Poppies*.

The yolke of an egg taken in the morning with *Sugar*, and the oyle of sweet *Almonds* is a most incomparable remedy, and hath done good to thousands.

Anoynt her Breast with this Oyntment, which is good to prepare the crude, and thick matter which stops her pipes.

Take an ounce of the oyntment of *marish mallowes*.

The *axungia* of a *hen*
Of a *Duck*, of each halfe an ounce.
Oyle of sweet *Almonds*,
Oyle of *Violets*, of each two drams.
Ten graines of *Saffron*.

Mingle them, and according to art make an oyntment; heat it when you use it, and anoynt the whole region of her Chest therewith.

## CHAP. VII.

### *Of the swelling of the Legs in Women with Childe.*

FRom the same cause, namely from abundance of phlegme, and crude humours, especially in the last moneths, proceed the swelling of the legs, face, and eye-browes, and when I have told you that the flesh of the whole body groweth soft, and that she looketh white and wan in the face, I have discovered unto your consideration the signes of this disease.

Women in this condition cannot be restored to perfect health till she be delivered: yet may we not delay our helps, least a worse evill happen unto her; for whereas the legs and feet are outward parts, and at a great distance from the fountaine of heat, they are quickly affected with cold, and mortified through the abundance of crude humours, which many times settle in them.

You may securely, speedily, and gently accomplish the cure by strengthning and dissolving remedies.

In

In the first place therefore provide a bath with *chalybeated* water, *Saltpeter*, *Sulphur*, *Wormewood*, *Stechaz*, *Rosemary*, and *Camomile:* in this liquor let her wash her lips, her thighes, her legs, and her feet, and when she washeth them, let her also rub them soundly.

If her flesh grow very soft and lank, so that you feare a mortification, apply this Poultis following, which will exceedingly comfort her.

Take two handfulls of *Wormewood*,
Meale of *Vetches*,
Meale of *beanes*,
Meale of *barley* of each an ounce and a halfe.
An ounce of *Bran*.

With a sufficient quantity of *oxymel*, and a brine made with *lemon* pills, according to art make your Poultis.

If the coldnesse of the part be such, that you feare a gangreen, there is nothing will more certainly prevent it then Scarification: for by this meanes the part is ventilated, and preserved from putrifaction.

Strengthning remedies must sometimes be exhibited to expell the winde, yet you must administer them with a good diet, consisting of drying, and corroborating things,

things, as *Treacle*, *Mithridate*, and other drying confections and powders, *Diacinnamomum*, *aromaticum rosatum*, *Diarrhodon Abbatis*, unto which we may well adjoyne a decoction of *China* and *Salsaparilla* with a little stick of *cinamon*, and a few *annise* seeds.

Note that these remedies may properly be accommodated to the cure of the disease, called the *Uterine Flux*, which happens sometimes to women when they are ready to lye down, by reason that there is an excessive abundance of humour in their bodies, or else because the childe in their bellies is very large and great.

## CHAP. VIII.

### *Of Costiveness in Women with Childe.*

THe inner part of the humour being spent upon the nourishment of the childe in the womans belly, the dregs grow hard, and when Nature striveth to cast them out by a strong and vehement indeavour, the *Matrix* suffers a compression, by which compression the childe is offended, the *Cotyledons* are loosened, and many times the woman miscarrieth, and the child proves abortive.

The

The belly must be sollicited, but not with *glysters*, because they hurt the childe, especially if it be grown to some bigness, but with *Suppositaries* made with *hogs grease*, and five or sixgraines of *Diagrydium*; for these will irritate.

Her meat should be of a moistening and mollifying quality, as *mallow*, and *borage* leaves eaten with *butter* and *Sugar*; fat pottage also is good for her, in which, if she complaine of no torments, you may boyle *polypoda*, *sena* and *prunes*.

*Manna* above all other things is in present case to be preferred: and next to it we commend Syrup of *roses laxative*, and Syrupe of *Violets* made with a frequently iterated infusion.

Sometimes you may prescribe this *Julep*.

Take the waters of *borage*,
*Fumitary*, of each eight ounces.
Three ounces of Syrup of *Violets*.
Mingle them, and make a *Julep*.

Forbeare the use of sharp medicines, for they worke with an unnecessary vehemence, and not seldome cause Abortiveness.

Unto this disease we adjoyne a looseness, which hapneth, when women are of a cold constitution, and full of crudities, or when they have a weake belly: Sometimes

times also it happens by their inordinate Longings, when they wish for a greater variety of dishes then they are able to concoct; for then many times what they have so greedily devoured passeth down into the guts without digestion, and causeth a loosnesse through the weaknesse of the retentive facultie.

We have learnt from *Hippocrates* to account this among the dangerous diseases; for in the fifth brok of his *Aphorismes* he hath these words: If a woman with childe be troubled with a great loosnesse, 'tis to be feared that she will miscarry, and note well the reason hereof: for when she is thus afflicted, the good and the bad goe away together, the childe is defrauded of its due nourishment, and so perisheth.

You must presently strive to stay the loosnesse with binding and thickning meats, as *quinces*, *rubarb*, *beer* wherein *steele* hath been often infused; or else you may prescribe this Potion following.

Take a handfull of *plantane* leaves.

The seeds of *flux-wort*.

The seeds of *Sumach*, of each a dram.

Boyle them in a sufficient quantity of red wine, to a pint and a halfe, to the strained liquor add

Syrupe

Srrupe of *Comphrey.*
Syrupe of *Quinces*, of each an ounce.
Make a Potion.

Boile, or steep *annise* seeds in her drinkes and apply the same *fomentations*, oyntments, and plaisters, as we have already commended unto against Vomiting.

But if the *excrements* be slimy, putrified, and stinke, you must not neglect the use of *Rubarb* gently rosted, and of *myrobalans* slightly rosted; for these doe not onely purge, but they binde withall, and strengthen the parts. Sometimes you may exhibit *Philonium Persicum*, *Requiem Nicholai*, or *Pill. de Cynogloss*a, but with a sober caution; the quantity is a scruple, or at the most but two scruples, and that when the other things have proved unsuccessefull, and also when the strength of the Patient will allow the taking of them.

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## CHAP. IX.

### *Of the flowing away of Bloud from the* Matrices *of women with childe.*

ALthough we made mention of this disease in the first booke, where we treated of

of the immoderate flowing of the *Courses*; yet we conceive it may be worth our labour, and the Readers thanks to add a few things, which in the Chapter aforesaid, were purposely omitted by us.

Bloud then floweth immoderately from the *Matrix*, either when the lips thereof are unlockt, or when the vessells are open, or lastly, by transcolation.

The inward cause of these symptomes is an extreame heat, or thinnesse in the bloud; which either eats asunder the vessells, or rarefies the *tunicles* thereof; the outward causes are all those things which have a power to make thin, to heat, to open, to rarefie, and to subtilize the bloud; as immoderate cares of the minde, long watchings, a continuall use of hot meats, as dishes pepperd and spiced: also drinking too much wine; yet you may exhibit a glasse of *Claret wine* in a moderate quantity, to refresh her spirits, provided that no *Fever* be suspected, and that her *Matrix* be not inflamed.

The signes of this evill are manifest; for the spirits are deficient, the heat is diminished, the face groweth pale, the feet swell, the strength decayes, the meat is forsaken, and no sleep can be obtained.

The

The danger of this *Flux* is unknown, I suppose, to few women; for seeing that our naturall heat hath its chiefe, and sole perseverance in the bloud, the losse of that bloud in an immoderate quantity, must needs exhaust the spirits, weaken the body, and at length when the naturall heat is almost extinguisht, and the sanguification is depraved, there will undoubtedly supervene either a *Dropsey*, or a *Consumption.*

When you begin the Cure, keep the Patient in a darke roome, and let the ayre be cold and dry; or if naturally it be not so, make it so by art; her meat should be potentially cold, thick, and binding: as the flesh of *Partridges*, and *sheeps feet*, or *sheeps-heads*, or broths made of them; *pease beanes*, *quinces*, *Services*, and the like, are not unwholsome for her, and for her drinke, let it bee beere, or water wherein *steele* hath often been quenched.

Let her bloud immediately to divert the humour, but in what part, there is indeed a great controversie among the Physitians about it; but to promote the Revulsion of the humour, if the Patient be strong enough, we tye *ligatures* about her legs, and boldly open a vein in her arme; or if she be very strong, we apply *Cuppinglasses* with

with scarification to her shoulders.

When the veine is opened, give her thickning Syrups, as Syrup of *poppies*, *Myrtles*, *quinces*, or Syrupe of *restharrow*; *Juleps* also made with the distilled waters of *plantane* and *roses*, and mixt with the Syrups aforesaid, will be convenient for her, or you may mingle Conserve of *roses*, or Conserve of *acacia* with *Bolearmenick*, and the *Trochisch. de Carabe*, which will be an excellent mixture to thicken, and stay the bloud; but however forget not to prescribe this Purge.

Take two scruples of *Rubarb* gently boyled.

Ten grains of the *myrabolans* called *chebule*.

Syrup of dried *roses*, or

Syrupe of sowre *Pomegranets*, halfe an ounce.

Three ounces of *plantane* water, or a decoction of *tormentill* roote.

Mingle them, and make a Potion.

Procure some sleepe for her with *Opiates*, as *Athenasia*, *Requies*, *Nicholai*, *Philonium Persicum*, new *Treacle*, or *Philonium Romanum*; yea with pills *de Cynoglossa*, or foure or five graines of *Opium*: all these things doe wonderfully thicken the bloud, straighten the passages, fatten the body,

concoct

concoct the bloud, provoke sleep, and therefore are very proper for women thus affected. Note that the *Opium* restraines, and stops all superfluous evacuations, sweat excepted, which it provokes; besides, by inviting sleepe it refresheth the body; for by sleep the aliment is sooneſt concocted, the naturall heat retiring to the inward parts, whereas when the Patient waketh, the heat is distributed and diffused all over the outward parts.

Lay this plaister which followes the oyntment to the reines of her back, and with the oyntment anoynt her privie parts, and the region of her Kidnies.

Take the powder of *Cyprus* Nuts,
The roots of *Comphrey*,
*Bistort*, of each two drams,
Red *Sanders*,
Red *Coral*,
*Bolearmenick*,
*Mastick*, of each a dram.
With foure ounces of *Unguentum Comitissæ* make an oyntment.

After the oyntment apply this Plaister, as was said above.

Take a pound of *loom*, and beat it to powder, with ten drams of *gum-arabick* tosted by the fire, and the whites of foure Egs,

incorporate them, and make a plaister.

## CHAP. X.

### *Of water flowing away from the* Matrices *of women with Childe.*

MOst certaine it is, that Women with Childe by reason of their depraved appetites, and continuall intemperance in their diet, abound with crude and unconcocted juices, which nature not knowing how to digest, nor being able to expell them by her monethly *Courses*, are accumulated in a large measure, pollute the body, and introduce a cold distemper, from whence that water comes, which is the intended subject of our present discourse; they who live a sedentary and an idle life, are very obnoxious to this disease; in such women this wateriſh humour comes away at the *Matrix*, cold to the touch, slow in motion, slimy in substance, and white to the eye, and voide of all manner of sharpnesse; these women look pale, their skin is lanke or loose, they are lazy, and loath to use any exercise, they are troubled with winde, and loud rumblings in their bellies.

Account

Account this a difficult Cure: especially when it happens in the last moneths, when we dare not administer convenient remedies, fearing to destroy, or hurt the childe; because such kinde of remedies dissolve, and exhaust the spirits, and when the body is extreamely weakned, they precipitate the Patient into a *Dropsey*, which is scarce curable; or else she miscarries by reason that the retentive faculty is too much weakned by excesse of moysture.

You must therefore indeavour the cure by a drying Diet, as *Bisket* made with *annise* seeds, and with flesh meat rather rosted then boiled; forbid windy meats, salt meats, such as breed a thick juice, and yield too much moisture; *almonds*, *chesnuts*, *pine kernells*, and boyled *rise* are very wholsome, all hearbs and fruit, beside *quinces* and *medlars*, are unwholsome.

For her drinke, give her binding red wine, or wine wherein *steele* hath been quenched: for this comforts the spirits; a decoction of *china* and *Salsaparilla* may be profitable, because it dries up the descending moisture, and cleanseth the body from it, this potion following will doe her much good.

Take two drams of *Cyprus* nuts.

The leaves of *wormewood*,
*Mint*,
Red *roses*, of each halfe a handfull.
The seeds of *quinces*,
*Services*, of each two drams.
Parcht *rise*,
*Mastick*, of each a dram.
Halfe a dram of *gum dragon*.

Boile them in a sufficient quantity of water, wherein *steele* hath been quenched, to two pints; to the strained liquor add

Syrup of dried *roses*,
Syrup of the juyce of *quinces*, of each an ounce.
Halfe an ounce of *honey* of *roses*.
Mingle them, and make a Potion.

Let her take three ounces of it early in the morning; it evacuates the wateriſh humour, and not onely strengthens, but also bindes the parts, dryeth the *Cotyledons*, and retaineth the childe in the *Matrix*, that it come not into the world before its due time; after the Potion, the next day lay this Plaister to her privie parts.

Take two drams of *Loadstone* beaten to powder.
*Spikenard*,
*Mastick*,
Red *corall*, of each a dram.

Two

Two ounces of oyle of *quinces.*
Six drams of white *wax.*
Mingle them and make a Plaiſter.

A gentle *laxative* Decoction cannot be inconvenient, and therefore we ſhall here ſet down that which hath often purchaſed ſweet eaſe to the Patient, and credit to our ſelves.

Take a handfull of *plantane* leaves.
A pugill of red *roſes.*
Foure drams of *rubarb.*
Two drams of *agarick trochiſchated.*
*Maſtick,*
*Spikenard,* of each a ſcruple.

Macerate them together in two pints of water, wherein *ſteele* hath been infuſed upon hot coales, the ſpace of ſix houres; afterwards ſet them upon the fire, and when they begin to bubble, preſſe out the liquor with a ſtrong hand, and add to it

Two ounces of Syrup of *Fumitary.*
Mingle them according to Art.

Give her every other morning faſting three ounces of this decoction; for it gently ſtrengthens the parts, diverts the wateriſh humour from the *Matrix*, and with much benignity evacuates it.

When the woman is almoſt ready to be in labour, a wheyiſh or wateriſh humour

floweth leasurely, and by degrees from the *Matrix*, either because of some dilatation of the *Membranes*, in which the childe is enwrapped, or else because those *membranes* are burst asunder; and although it descend leasurely, yet a large quantity comes from her; if this happen when she is in labour, suspend all helps of art, for it is a good omen that she will be safely delivered; but if it should fall out in the fifth, sixth, seventh, or eigth moneth, in which there is, or may be a feare of miscarrying, then may you properly and securely adadminister those things, which we even now prescribed.

If you demand from whence that abundance of wateriſh humours doth come, which floweth before she is in Labour? I answer from the *Membrane*, or skin called *Ammion*, which is fastned to the Childe, and from the other called *Chorion*, in which two skins, the urine of the Childe is so long reserved, till the fulnesse of time be accomplished, in which it should be borne; at which time seeking by instinct of nature, for a greater proportion of nourishment, it kicks, and teares these *membranes*, out of which when a large plenty of waters have run, it comes forth into the world.

CHAP.

## CHAP. XI.

### *Of Acute Diseases, befalling Women with Childe.*

WOmen are preserved both from the threatnings, and also from the Invasions of those Diseases whereunto they are subject by a threefold kinde of Remedies: by Diet, by *Phlebotomy*, and by Purging, or to speake more properly, by being purged.

But the two latter are the more difficult, according to the opinion of *Galen*, who in this hath the concurrence of *Avicens* judgement also; you must know, saith he, that every disease of repletion, or the malice of a complexion is not cured by his contrary, but sometimes by a good regiment of health; wherefore if it be a slight disease, it will be cured of its own accord; for there is no kinde of disease so fierce, saith *Galen* in his book of Diet, which is not tamed by it; but yet a moderation must be observed; for they who are neere their time, and looke every day to be in labour, want a larger proportion of nourishment,

because the childe is big, and should they be defrauded of this mediocrity, they would perish by the cruelty of an acute disease; wherefore here lies all the difficulty to prescribe a convenient and fit Diet for such women; for should you allow them meat and drinke suitable to the condition of women who are not with childe, you should destroy the childe: and should you, out of a regard to the preservation of the childe, be more liberall and indulgent to their appetites, this condescension would espouse you to another errour, for hereby you might cherish the cause of the disease; let her therefore be fed with meats that are of easie concoction and distribution, and prohibit her the use of thick, sharp, sowre, bitter, and windy meats, that are hard to digest.

Having prescribed a good Diet, you must consider whether it be expedient she should be let bloud. *Valesius* sets down the reasons on both sides, and for the Negative he alleadgeth an *Aphorisme* in *Hippocrates*, running to this sense; if a woman with childe be let bloud, she miscarries, and the rather, if the childe in her wombe be big; because the childe is thereby defrauded of its aliment. Secondly *Galen* saith, Physi-

ans

ans ought not to be busie in offering helps, or strong remedies to women with childe, nor any exquisite manner of Diet; here you must understand *Phlebotomy* say they; therefore it must from *Galens* words be concluded inexpedient. Thirdly, if any evacuation be a cause of abortiveness, as a *flux* of the belly, or a looseness, as *Hippocrates* in another *Aphorisme* affirmeth, how much more will the opening of a veine be a cause, by meanes whereof the aliment is taken away from the childe. Fourthly, a *Fever* kills the childe, by wasting the spirits, and drying up the bloud with the vehement heat thereof; therefore so also will *phlebotomy* kill the childe by exhausting the spirits, and consuming the bloud.

But all these reasons to my understanding are of no weight, no moment, no validity, seeing that it is most certaine, that the very impregnation, or being with child doth forbid *phlebotomy*, in respect of it self, yet not as one of those principall scopes which withstand it, but of those which indicate and advise to a sober and due celebration of it; wherefore when a woman sick of an acute disease must be let bloud, yet must she bleed lesse then the affect and the plenitude require, because of that indica-

tion,

tion; which is taken from the childe in her wombe; for her gravidation, or being with childe ought to be reputed as a Symptome which wasts the spirits, because her bringing forth the childe is a kinde of evacuation.

To the second I answer, that *Galen* in that place meanes nothing else, but that Physitians should counsell their Patients to avoid intemperance, because women with childe admit not of the least degree beyond a mediocrity.

To the third I answer, that it is not alwayes true that abortiveneſſe followeth upon any large evacuation; and therefore it should not onely have beene said, but proved by the Interpreters of *Hippocrates*; for wee see that it followes not upon hunger, or emptineſſe, unleſſe it be *diuturnall*; nor from a looſeneſſe, unleſſe it be immoderate, nor lastly, from *phlebotomy*, if a veine be opened in the arme, wherefore, that I may conclude, I conceive *Hippocrates* did intend only to prohibit the cutting of a veine in the ankle, but not in the arme: for I confeſſe, if a veine in the ankle be cut, the bloud is drawn in abundance to the *Matrix*, and so may strangle, or choake the childe, and cauſe abortiveneſſe: the like also doth any vehement

vehement and exorbitant Purge.

Wherefore if an inflammation be present, we affirme that a woman with childe may be let bloud without any danger of abortion: yet with this condition, that she be first well nourished with meats of good concoction and quick distribution, and that a small quantity onely be taken away, least the spirits should be empaired either for the present, or the future. Moreover I like not the cutting of the *Basilick* veine, because it much exhausts the bloud, and may cheat the childe of his nourishment. Lastly, I counsell you to apply strengthning, and nourishing things to the navell before you cut the veine, as *unguentum Comitissæ*, or *Emplastrum stomachichum*, or *fomentations* made of *wormewood*, *roses*, *mastick*, *lignum aloes*, *quince* seeds, and *Claret wine:* and whileſt she is bleeding, let her hold cold water in her mouth, or cold beer, that if perhaps she begin to faint, she may swallow it, and preserve her selfe from swounding.

But what shall be said concerning Purges, which consist of hot ingredients, and as *Galen* and *Averroes* contend, disturb and hurt the childe. I answer, all purging medicines are not of that quality; wherefore we

we may safely prescribe *manna*, *sena*, *tamarinds*, *rubarb*, and *cassia*, omitting such simples as have any participation of vehemence; and we confidently aver, that *Hippocrates* must be understood in this sense, where he saith, women with childe must be physickt or purged, if the matter be turgid, in the fourth moneth unto the seventh; because the childe in the wombe is likened to the fruit upon a tree, which as at first they fall down by any slight motion, and afterwards stick faster to the tree, but when they are full ripe fall of their own accord; so the childe; wherefore if you will prescribe any physick, follow the directions of *Hippocrates*, and exhibit it between the fourth and the seventh moneth, because then there is a firme connexion between the *Membranes*, and the *Cotyledons*.

If you desire exactly to know these middle moneths? I answer, they are the fifth, the sixth, and part of the seventh.

If you object the words of *Galen*, who saith that a child three months old is strong, and able to resist the injuries of physick. I answer, that he reckons the end of the third to be compleat, not till the fourth moneth be begun, concerning which argument the learned may consult the Epistles of *Mainendus*.

THE

# THE FOURTH BOOK, OF VVomens Diseases.

## The first Chapter.

### *OF a Naturall Birth, and of Abortion.*

PRovident Nature at all times hath not a greater care of any thing, then of the propagation of mankinde, and this although it appeare not so much in the *species*, yet it is cleare and manifest in the individuall, and thus she hath framed women to a delight in *Venereous* conjunctions, that they might with greedinesse suck in the mans seed, and dispose

dispose and cherish it to Generation. So soone as the woman hath conceived, Nature hath an especiall care to fashion, augment, nourish, adorne, and perfect the childe, and at a determined time to send it out into the world, in all respects compleat and absolute.

This sending forth of the childe is twofold; either naturall, or preternaturall; the first is when Nature at a time prefixed, sends out into the Province of the world a perfect Citizen, with an exact dearticulation of all the parts, with a little paine, without any *fever*, or passions of the minde: this sometimes comes forth before its time, with great paine to the woman in her back and belly, as in the fifth, seventh, or eighth moneth: or else it stayes beyond the ordinary date of time.

There are severall opinions among the Physitians, why a childe that is borne in the eighth moneth should be weake, and not healthfull, whereas a childe borne in the seventh moneth is held to be both strong, and healthfull. *Laurentius* in his book *de re Anatom.* handles these things with much elegance, and thither we refer the Reader, and for our own opinion, we shall most readily declare it to be this; that I hold

hold it impossible, that the childe should be able to undergoe two afflictions, the one immediately following the other; namely, one in the seventh, and the other in the eighth moneth, in which it is very obnoxious to sufferance and danger, and therefore most commonly perisheth in the eighth moneth, for it comes to passe that the childe is doubly, or consequently afflicted; first with that affliction which befalls it in the wombe, and afterwards with that which happeneth in the birth; but this befalleth not the childe, which comes forth in the seventh moneth, because it comes into the world perfect, strong, and without the labour of the seventh and eighth moneth.

*Galen* describes Abortion to be an imperfect Emission of the Childe, or a violent *Excretion* of the Childe.

The Causes hereof are many and various; some inward, some outward; the outward cause, which for the most part is subjected to the arbitrement of sense, is a vehement *fever*, which kills the childe, especially if it continue long; for it is destructive, both to the Mother and the Childe; the fiery heat thereof devoures the whole substance of the moisture, wastes the spirits,

spirits, consumes the flesh, and so weakens the body, and destroyes the childe by exhausting the spirits, and dissipating the aliment; to this we have already adjoyned an excessive, or lasting looseneſſe, because as we have said, it looseneth the *Cotyledons*, and by the sharpneſſe of the humours irritates the *Matrix*, shaking, agitating, and assaulting it, till provoked Nature excern the Childe: dancing, leaping, loud crying, long fasting, doe all presage that the woman will miscarry; so also are the relations of some unexpected events, anger, chiding, thunder, the sudden noise of some pistoll or musket, a fall, the denyall of some ardent request, and an innumerable company of other such things.

The inward are reduced to three Causes namely, to the weight or heavineſſe of the humour, whereby the suffocated childe is overwhelmed and perisheth; the second is the great bulke of the *Matrix*, by reason whereof the childe is scarce held fast, but slides away, and slips out; or the small and narrow capacity of the *Matrix*, wherein it neither groweth to any bigneſſe, or perfection, but perisheth for want of roome; the third is a skirrosity or hard swelling, which is an impediment to the childe, that it

it cannot lye stretcht out to its full dimensions, but endures a compression, and dieth.

*Galen* reckons up those signes which goe before abortion; the first whereof is an extenuation of the nipples, the second a diminution of the milke; the third when the child is not perceived to stir in the belly; the fourth the slenderneſse of the woman; the fifth, the looseneſse or lankneſse of the whole belly; the sixth, the depravation of the appetite: the seventh, which is a true signe that she is now ready to miscarry, is a paine in her back, in her privie parts, and torments all over her belly, with a thin humour distilling from her *Matrix*.

This is far more dangerous, then a lawfull and naturall birth, in regard of the perturbations and violence which is offered to nature.

As for the Cure, the woman having already miscarried, that consists in the point of preservation, namely, to prevent the supervening of a *Fever*, or the *Whites*; this may be done by the help of those things which we have noted above; sleep must be procured; then the belly and the *Matrix* must be strengthned with *fomentations*, little bags, and such like administrations as are good to expell winde.

To prevent obortion, and to preserve the woman from miscarrying, we approve (if the danger be threatned from an extreame fulnesse of humours, the cutting of the *Easilick* or the middle veine; for this counsell we have the Authority of *Fernelius*, who in his second book de *Meth. Med.* saith, unlesse many veines be unlockt about the mouth, in which the woman looketh, she will miscarry; for the childe is overwhelmed, and choak't with too much bloud; but if it proceed from the amplitude and large capacity of the *Matrix*, apply astringent decoctions; if from the narrownesse of the part, mollifying medicines will be most proper, yea, and such as resolve and consume away hard swellings, may be convenient for this cure.

## CHAP. II.

### *Of a hard Labour.*

WE call a womans Labour hard, and difficult for five conditions, or five reasons: the first whereof is an Anticipation of, or as we use to say, when she comes before her due time, in the fourth, fifth,

fifth, or sixth moneth, which because it is excerned by nature before the naturall time, it is imperfect, precipitating the woman into many straights and bitter pangs: the second is a transversall, or prepostorous Egresse, as when one foot onely, or an arme appeareth, or when the breech cometh before the head, or when both the feet joyned together come out first, and afterwards the head; the third is, when the childe which comes forth of the wombe is mishapen, nature having erred in the conformation; the fourth is intolerable paine, fainting, swounding fits, and bitter torments about the bottome of her belly, and the secret parts; the fifth is, an effusion or running out of water many dayes before the birth: which being run out, the passages which before were slippery to assist the emission of the childe, now remaine hard and dry, and become an impediment to the birth; this humour is of no small advantage, nay, it is of admirall concernment to facilitate the birth, if we may without procuring envie to the man, beleeve *Galen*, who saith in his book *de usu partium*; that that humour serves not onely to moisten the childe, and to make the wayes slippery, but it likewise subdues

the callosity and hardnesse of the *matrix*, almost to an incredible dilatation; to these we may adjoyne the weaknesse of the mother, and the imbecillity of the expulsive faculty, as also the strength of the Retentive.

The signes of an illegitimate birth succeeding, are vehement, but vaine indeavours and strivings, seeing that the childe for the reasons aforesaid is hindred from coming forth.

No man of understanding can deny, but this must be terrible to behold, and painefull to endure; for if the childe chance to dye, and lye dead in the *Matrix* some dayes, it is most certaine, that it will putrifie, infect the principall parts with noysome vapours, and poysonous exhalations, weaken their strength, and bring an unavoided death upon the woman.

We have often, and with the saddest apprehensions, beheld, how much diligence was necessary both to the relieve of the Mother, and the preservation of the childe: wherefore having provided a skilfull Midwife, you must lay the woman in a darke place, least her minde should be distracted with too much light; all passions of the minde must be diverted by a pleasant, and cheerfull

cheerefull conversation, and provide such meat for her as is easie of concoction. Let her drinke be small beere, or *barley* water boiled with *Maidenhaire*, and *cinamon*, unto which add a small quantity of *Rhenish wine*; for this brings down the urine, moves the *Courses*, and facilitates the birth; boiled meats are most wholsome for her, as *mutton* boiled with *Rosemary*; *chicken* broth also is good for her, and so are the *chickens*. Binding, and sharp things must be avoided; gentle, and moderate exercise is commendable; and afterwards the Midwife may rub her legs and her feet.

We have acquainted you with the Conditions of an ill birth; and now we shall furnish you with remedies to prevent, or oppose those conditions.

When the childe goeth out in a depraved figure, the Midwife must gently dilate the parts with her hand, or with some convenient instrument; certaine it is that this happens very often, if a monster be borne, in regard of the bad conformation of the body; if a foot, or an arme, or the shoulders, or the buttocks come out first, then the Midwife by the activity of her hand, anoynted with oyle of sweet *almonds*, must thrust back the childe, and dispose it to a

more regular egresse: but if this cannot be done, the childs life is in danger; and if the child perish, it must either be expelled with medicines, or drawn out with an hooked instrument, as we shall shew you in the chapter next following.

If vehement Symptomes arise from hence, all which are wont to proceed from the weakness of the *Mother*, or else from clotted bloud destilling from the *Mairix* before the birth, and that you feare a greater inquination in regard of that putrified bloud, then comfort the feeble and decayed spirits of the woman with the *Rhenish wine* and broths aforesaid; when this is done, provoke the clotted bloud, and feculent humour by strong ligatures, by rubbing her body with a course cloath, and applying *Cuppinglasses* to her legs; and if the woman be fallen into an agony, if she be young, of a good habit, full of bloud, or of a sanguine complexion, and if it be also the Spring time (if those about her have strong feares that she will dye) open a veine in her ankle; for thus Nature is disburthened, and the womb which was oppresst with the weight of the bloud feeles ease, and many times the woman recovers who was at deaths doore.

To

To witnesse the truth hereof, we have an authentick warrant from the writings of *Hippocrates*, who in his booke *de morbis mulier.* hath these words; if a woman with childe be a long time restrained, and cannot bring forth; if she be likewise in the vigour of her age, and full of bloud, you must open a veine in her ankles, and draw away the bloud, respect being had to the strength of her body. Note that he saith out of her ankles, that is, at one time from both ankles, as *Cordæus* his Commentatour hath observed unto us; but yet in our Climates, we conceive it sufficient to cut a veine in the left ankle onely; because our opinion is, that somewhat must be left to Nature, who is somewhat wearied, but yet able to make a further resistance.

After the *phlebotomy*, curb the malice of the humours with *Bezoar* stone, *Treacle*, *Mithridate*, *Alkermes*, *Hyacyntha*, with *Lozenges* made of *Manus Christi*, *Diamargariton frigidum*, *Aromaticum rosatum*, and the like.

If great plenty of waters come away before the birth, if the *Matrix* and the Scabard thereof remaine dry, if the *Cotyledons* be contracted and straightned, so that no roome is left for the egresse of the childe; then must it be your indeavour to soften,

to moisten, and make wide the passages, with oyle of sweet *almonds*, or with a warm cloath dipped in the oyle, or else fill a bladder full of this oyle, and lay it upon her privities; or lastly, you may mingle it with a decoction of *onyons*, *garlick*, *rue*, and *birthwort*.

Half Tubs are in this case very profitable, being made after this manner following.

Take the leaves of *mallowes*,
*Marish mallowes*, of each foure handfulls.
*Motherwort*,
*Rue*,
*Birthwort*,
*Penniroyall*, of each three handfulls.
*Camomile*,
*Melilot* flowers,
The tops of *Dill*, of each two handfulls and a halfe.
The seeds of *Fenugreek*,
*Marish mallowes*,
*Line*, of each an ounce and a halfe.
An ounce and a halfe of *Laurell* berries.

Boyle them all in thirty pints of water, put them into a tub, and let the woman sit covered in it, till all things correspond with her expectations.

You cannot scandalize your judgement by an errour, if you present her with an opening,

opening, dilating, and provoking draught, as she is seated in the Tub; the forme whereof may be this.

Take two scruples of the *Trochisch* of *Myrrhe.*

Ten graines of *Borace.*

Eight graines of *Saffron.*

Halfe an ounce of Syrup of *Motherwort.*

Three ounces of a decoction of *madder* roots and *rosemary.*

Mingle them for a draught.

Many commend this oyntment following, which they apply to the privie parts.

Take *unguentum de Althæa,*

*Unguentum Resumptivum,* of each an ounce.

Oyle of white *lillies,*

Oyle of *Dill,*

*Hens grease,* of each halfe an ounce.

*Saffron,*

*Dittany* beaten to powder, of each two drams.

With a sufficient quanty of wax make an oyntment.

But if nature be culpable in both, namely in the weakness of the *Mother*, and the expulsive faculty, and also in the strength of the retentive; then against one you must administer corroborating medicines, as hath already been said, and to rectifie

rectifie the other fault, you must adhibit loosening remedies, such namely as are recited above.

## CHAP. III.

### *Of the Retained Secundine.*

GALEN in his book *de usu partium* hath reckoned up three *membranes*, which enwrap the childe in the wombe; the first whereof is called *Ammios*, this on every side is spread over the whole childe, and receiveth the childs sweat, that it may swim in it; The second is named *Allantoeides*, or *Intestinalis*, or as others name it better, *Urinaculum*, whose use is, to receive the urine; the third is called *Chorion*, our *Midwives* call it the *Secundine*, which is nothing else but a multitude and connexion of vessells and *membranes*, thorough which as by little springs or rivolets, the child draweth bloud and ayre; these *membranes* are burst when the childe begins to kick his way out into the world, from whence that liquor distilleth, as we have noted above, which makes the passages slippery; after the nativity of the childe these

these *membranes* are excerned, but if they chance to be retained, they introduce most outragious Symptomes, and a disease of number, in the excesse.

The Causes of the *retention* are diverse, for many times the *Matrix* is confirmed after the childe is borne; many times the immoderate passions of the minde make nature forget her selfe in his duty; sometimes odoriferous things draw the *Matrix* upwards, and so nature is disturbed in her purposes of exclusion; an unseasonable drinking of cold water is a very frequent cause of it; and so are grosse meats that stuffe the body and thicken the bloud.

You may know by the Midwives relation, that the *Secundine* is retained, unto whom (if she be skillfull) you ought at the command of *Hippocrates* yield up your beliefe, or you may conjecture it; if the woman be sad in minde, subject to faint and swound, full of tossing, and unquietnesse, if she feele a heavinesse in her wombe, or a round substance, like unto a fixt and immoveable ball.

This is a most lamentable disease; for if he *Secundine* be retained for any considerable time it putrifies, and communicates poisonous exhalations to the principall parts,

as

as the heart, the brain, the liver; from whence arise swounding fits, anxiety of minde, giddinesse in the head, and direfull torments.

Wherefore let it be the Midwives care with all speed to attempt the cure, bringing down the *Secundine* with her fingers besmeared with oyle, and let her hold fast the umbilicall vessells, till the *Secundine* follow; but what if it remaine behinde? then according to the Oracle of *Hippocrates* delivered in the fortieth *Aphorisme* of his fifth book; you may exhibit sneezing medicines to the nostrills; for these by that motion compresse the upper parts, and the expulsive faculty being irritated, out comes the *Secundine*.

Take black *pepper*,
*Mustard* seed,
*Sagapenum* of each a dram and a halfe.
*Tobacco*,
*Castor*,
White *hellebore*, of each a dram.
A scruple of *Euphorbium*.

Make a fine powder of them, and upon the point of a knife, or thorow a quill let her sniffe up a little of it at a time; or you may prescribe this Potion for two *Doses*; it hath often done the Cure.

Take

Take eight ounces of *penniroyall* water.
An ounce and a halfe of *aquæ Hysterica.*
Two scruples of *Castor* in powder.
Mingle them for a Potion, to be taken at twice, or

Take two scruples of the *Trochiscbs de Carabre.*
A scruple of *Borace.*
Halfe an ounce of the Syrup of juice of *Betony.*
Three ounces of a decoction of *Savine.*
Mingle them for a Draught.

*Suffumigations* are also very profitable to bring away the *Secundine.*

Take *Storax,*
*Benjamin,*
*Lign. aloes,* of each two ounces.
*Musk,*
*Civet,* of each a scruple.

Make a *pessarie* of them, adding *Unguentum Agrippæ* and the juice of *Mercury.* *Liniments* must not be omitted, made with *unguentum de Althæa, de Agrippa,* oyle of *Almonds,* and oyle of *Dill*; *fomentations* and halfe tubs are equally necessary, made of a decoction of *camomile, pellitory* of the wall, *Motherwort, Birthwort, Origanum, Sage Savine, anniseed, fennill,* and *Line* seeds, unto all which may be added oyle of *Almonds,*

and

and oyle of *Dill*; *Glysters* must also be injected, and with good successe you may continually rub her hips and her thighes, tye *ligatures* about her legs, apply *Cuppinglasses*, and cut a veine in her ankle.

When the *Secundine* is ejected or drawn out, give the woman Cordialls, as *Bezoar* stone, *Treacle*, *Confect. de hyacintha*, or *Alkermes*: all which things are of undoubted vertue to restraine the malignity of the vapours; sometimes a *Mole* remaineth in the *Matrix* after the birth, which by reason of the congealed bloud, and the fleshie substance, whereof it is compounded, is as difficult to cure, as the retention of the *Secundine*: wherefore you must indeavour to expell that by the help of those remedies, which we have prescribed above in the chapter of a *Mola*, and here also a little above.

Note the difference betweene the *Secundine* and a *Mole*: this is fixt and unmoveable, but that is moveable from one place to another in a *Mole*, or when a woman is troubled with that halfe conception, so called, a black and clotted bloud drops from the *Matrix*, which upon the retention of the *Secundine* appeares not.

CHAP.

## CHAP. IV.
### *Of the Dead Childe.*

CErtaine it is, that the Childe dyes in the Mothers wombe for many causes; the first of these is an inward cause, as a defect of aliment, or the corruption of it; the second is a most vehement burning *Fever*, which by the excessive heat thereof wastes the spirits, and destroyes the naturall heat; The third cause is an unseasonable evacuation of bloud at the nose, the mouth, the *Matrix*, or by *phlebotomy*; The fourth is an exuperance, or an immoderate predominancy of humours in the body; The fifth is a great quantity of moysture loosening the vessells; The sixth is some vehement medicine. The first outward cause is some blow; the second a Cough: the third vociferations, or loud and clamorous yawlings: the fourth sneezing; the fifth, sad tydings; the sixth, some horrible and dreadfull sights.

The Childe may be known to be dead by a coldnesse about the Mothers navell, and by a kinde of fixt and immoveable weight in

in her belly: by a bad taste in her mouth, and by her stinking breath.

Use your utmost activity and cunning, to bring away the dead childe, both by inward administrations, and by outward applications, inwardly let her take this Potion.

Take a a dram of the *Trochisks* of *myrrhe*.
*Castor*,
*Storax*,
*Borace*, of each ten graines.
Foure ounces of a decoction of *Savine*.
Mingle them for a draught, or
Take the powder of *assa fœtida*.
*Trochisks* of *myrrhe*, of each a scruple.
*Troch. Alhandal.*
*Borace* of each ten graines.
*Nutmeg*,
*Saffron*, of each five graines.
Two ounces of a decoction of *Savine*,
Two ounces of *muscadine*,
Mingle them for a Draught, or
Take the powder of *Euphorbium*,
*Dittany* of *Creet*, of each a scruple.
Ten graines of *borace*.
Five graines of *Cantharides* prepared.
Three ounces of a decoction of *Savine*.
Mingle them for a Draught.
*Glysters* and *Suppositaries* are of great concernment,

cernment, and thus make you them.

Take a dram of *rest-harrow* roots.
The leaves of *Savine*,
*Pennyroyall*,
*Birthwort*,
*Motherwort*, of each a handfull.
*Origanum*,
*Sage*,
*Dittany* of *Creet*, of each halfe a handfull.
*Fennill* seeds,
*Nettle* seeds,
The pulp of *Coloquintida*, of each two drams.

Boile them in a sufficient quantity of water to nine ounces, to the strained liquor add

Two ounces of *benedicta laxativa*.
Halfe an ounce of *hiera picra*.
Mingle them, and make a *Glyster*, or
Take *Troch. Alhandall*.
*Scammony*, of each a scruple.
A dram of common *salt*.

With a sufficient quantity of white *honey* boiled according to Art, make your *Suppository*.

Outwardly you may apply oyntments made of oyle of *Castor*, oyle of *Foxes'*, oyle of *Euphorbium*, with *unguentum Agrippe*, unto which may be added a little *coloquintida*,

powder of *dittany*, *scammony*, the *gall* of an *Oxe*.

Take two ounces of *Unguentum Agrippæ*.

Oyle of *Castor*,

*Foxes*,

*Euphorbium*, of each halfe an ounce.

The pulp of *coloquintida*,

*Dittany* of *Creet*,

*Scammony*, of each two drams.

The *gall* of an *Oxe*,

*Euphorbium*, of each a dram.

Mingle them, and make an oyntment.

*Suffumigations* may be prepared by this forme following.

Take halfe an ounce of *live Sulphur*.

*Opoponax*,

*Galbanum*,

*Assa fœtida*, of each two drams.

The powder of *rue*,

*Savine*, of each a dram and a halfe.

The *gall* of an *Oxe*,

The juice of an *onyon*, of each a sufficient quantity.

Make them into *Trochiscbs* for your use.

*Pessaries* must not be forgotten; therefore

Take three drams of *Hiera picra* in the *species*.

A dram and a halfe of *myrrhe*,

A sufficient quantity of *unguentum Agrippæ*.

With a piece of *cotton* according to Art, make a *Pessary*. Or

Take

Take *Ammoniack*,
*Assa fœtida*,
Black *hellebore*, of each two drams.
*Troch. Alhandall*,
*Scammony*, of each a dram.
The juice of *rue*,
*Soldanella*,
The gall of an *Oxe*, of each halfe a dram.
Two drams of *Turpentine*.
With *wooll* and *cotton* (according to Art) make a long *Pessary*.

If these things will not bring away the childe, and if the Mother be sadly fallen into an agony, the safest method will be, to draw out the childe with instruments, if no contraindications appeare, as a bad pulse, and a difficulty of breathing, with anxiety and unchearfulnesse of disposition in the woman.

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## CHAP. V.

### *Of the Torments, and the suppression of the Courses after the Birth.*

WOmen in labour must be gently handled, and carefully lookt unto, both in respect of the roome where she is

laid, and also in regard of the Diet which is most proper for her in that condition.

As for the place, it must be darke, far and free from noise, or any other disturbance that way; least she should be offended by any accidents of feare, or sadnesse, or by any sudden surprizalls of anger or griefe.

The Diet consists in meats of good juice, and easie concoction, and such as are not slow in their distribution to the severall parts, because they thicken the bloud, and obstruct the passages.

Let her drinke be small *beer*, cleare, and well setled from dregs. *Barley* water in which *birthwort* and *borage* leaves have been boiled, is incomparably the best drinke you can device for her: and next to it we prefer *Rhenish wine*, conditionally, that the presence of a *Fever* doth not forbid it.

The whole hope of preserving the Woman, yea, of curing the Diseases which happen after the birth, is placed in the evacuation of the feculent *menstruous* bloud, and therefore 'tis the duty of our skill to provoke, and urge down that bloud, least that evill befall her, which Physitians call *Torment*.

This is a paine in the whole lower region of the belly, felt upon the privie parts, neere

neere the small guts; the inward cause thereof is a multitude of thick *menstruous* bloud retained in the body.

The outward cause, is the inclemency of the outward ayre, in regard of the coldnesse, and the passions of the minde: thick meats, as *creame*, *custards*, and the like, coarse *bread*, salt *flesh*, hard *fish*, and many other things which are hard to digest, and not kindely distributed to all the regions of the body.

You may most easily discover this affect by the signes; for the *Courses* are retained, at least they come downe not so freely, nor in such plenty as at other times they were wont; a wandring and unquiet paine is perceived beneath the navell, with gurgulations and rumbling in the guts; the woman breaks winde, both upwards, and downwards; and this winde is bread of a thick and feculent bloud.

This affect must not be despised by neglect; for the matter making way by degrees to the affected part, augmenteth the paine, yea, and introduceth inflammations with a *Fever*; wherefore, when you have duely considered the age of the woman, the Climate in which she liveth, the time of the yeare, and the *menstruum*, you must without

out delay open a veine in the ankle, and not once onely, but twice or thrice, as it shall seeme expedient; for by this administration the thick and feculent bloud is drawn out; rub her legs, till by her complaints you know she feeles paine, and apply *Cuppinglasses* to the inward part; neither may you forget to lay *Leeches* to the Fundament, by reason of its neerneſſe to the *Matrix* and the *spleen.*

A Purge be it strong, or be it gentle, must be exhibited the first dayes, because the belly is not sufficiently open, and inclined to evacuate the *menstruum*; for should you afterwards purge her body, it would take off Nature, and interrupt her in her duty, as *Avicen* sheweth in his fourth *Fen.* and and first chapter.

Therefore let the bloud be made fluid, and the passages kept open: and then mitigate the paines with mollifying *fomentations* mixt with *Anodynalls.*

Take the Caul of a *weather* newly killed, and clap it upon the part; for by the actuall and asswaging heat thereof, it takes away the paine: and the same vertue hath the bladder of an *Oxe*, if it be filled halfe full of this decoction following.

Take the leaves of *mallowes*,

*Violets*,

*Vialets*,
*Pellitory* of the wall,
*Pennyroyall*, of each a handfull and a half.
The flowers of *Camomile*,
The flowers of *melilot*, of each a handfull.
*Line* seeds,
*Fennill* seeds, of each halfe an ounce.
Boile them in a sufficient quantity of water to three pints, unto which add
Three ounces of oyle of sweet *almonds*.
Oyle of *Dill*,
Oyle of *poppies*, of each an ounce and a halfe; use it as was said above.
Anoynt her belly with this oyntment following.
Take *unguentum de Althæa*,
*Unguentum Agrippe*, of each an ounce.
Oyle of *Lillies*,
Oyle of *camomile*, of each two drams.
A dram of *Opium* dissolved in burnt *wine*.
Mingle them for a *Liniment*.

Between the suppression of the *Courses*, and the staying of the *menstruum*, after a womans delivery, there is little or no difference; for there is one cause of both, and that accompanied with the same signes, and therefore we shall not diversifie the Cure, but direct the Reader to the second chap-

ter of our first book, where she may furnish her selfe with convenient remedies.

## CHAP. VI.

### *Of the immoderate coming down of the Courses after the birth.*

WE have sufficiently handled the Causes of the immoderate flowing of the *Courses* in our first book; we have also related unto the signes; wherefore now we shall tell you further from an *Aphorism* in *Hippocrates*, that if Fainting and Convulsion fits befall a woman in Childbed, 'tis a bad signe, because they argue a great weakness, after which follow inexpressible tortures, with paine in the *Hypochondriacall* parts, by reason of the clotted bloud, a small, frequent, and swift pulse, yea, and death it selfe; sometimes the woman is surprized with dotage, a *quinsey*, or a *Lethargie*; wherefore you must labour to stop the *Courses* with all your best premeditation, and caution: and the most expedite meanes you can use, are a thickning, bindiug, and cold diet, as broth made with *trotters*, in which you may also

boile

boile *rise*, *quinces*, or *pease*: but abstaine from *wine*; for it opens the parts, thins the humours, and provokes the *Courses*, as on the contrary cold things, bind, thicken, and stop up.

Rub her hands, and tie *Ligatures* about her upper parts; and according to the injunction of *Hippocrates*, in his *Aphorismes*, lay *Cuppinglasses* to her Breasts.

Finally, if the womans strength will bear it, there is not a surer remedie then letting bloud; and you must open the *Basilick* vein twice, or thrice.

Thickning things are very necessary, and of great moment in this cure.

Take true *bolearmenick*,

The *species Diatragacanth. frig.* 1. of each a scruple.

Halfe an ounce of Syrupe of *Quinces*.

Halfe an ounce of *plantane* water.

Mingle them for a Draught, or

Take *terra sigillata*,

Red *corall* prepared,

*Troch. de carabe*, of each a scruple.

Halfe an ounce of Syrup of *pomegranets*.

Three ounces of a decoction of red *rose* leaves.

Mingle them for a Draught, or

Take the leaves of *plantane*,

*Knotgrasse*,

*Knotgraſſe*, of each a handfull.
Red *roſes*,
*Pomegranet* flowers, of each half a handfull.
*Myrtle* ſeeds,
*Sumach* ſeeds, of each two drams.
A dram of the juice of *hypocyſtis*.

Boile them to ſix pints in a ſufficient quantity of water, wherein *ſteele* hath been quenched, give the ſtrained liquor for a *fomentation*, or

Take the powder of *Cyprus* nuts.
The roots of *Tormentill*,
*Dragons* bloud, of each a dram and a half.
A dram of *maſtick*,
Halfe a dram of right *bolearmenick*.
Two ounces of *unguentum Comitiſſæ*,
Oyle of *maſtick*,
Oyle of *myrtles*, of each two drams.

With a ſufficient quantity of *wax* make an oyntment.

If theſe get not the victory;

Take a ſcruple of the *maſſe* of pills *de Cynogloſſa*.

Make five pills, and guild them, or

Take halfe a dram of new *Treacle*.
Halfe a ſcruple of *Requies Nicholai*.
Two drams of Syrup of *poppy*.
Three ounces of *plantane* water.
Mingle them for a Draught.

If

If any fault in the *Liver*, as sometimes it hapneth, is the cause of this evill; apply cooling *Epithems* unto it, or instead thereof you may adhibit *Ceratum Santalinum* mixt with the powders of *Corall*, *Roses*, and *Camphire*.

## CHAP. VII.

### *Cures of such Diseases as usually befall a woman, after she is delivered.*

WE are taught by *Hippocrates*, that those Diseases which happen after the Birth, are more dangerous and venomous then the rest, because they are produced by a grosse, impure, thick, and feculent bloud; for the Childe in the wombe sucketh away the sweetest part of the bloud for its own nourishment, which it purifies, and reserves, the *melancholy*, and thicker portion thereof being separated, and forsaken, which if the providence of Nature doe not duly evacuate, and purge away, the woman in Childebed will without all doubt be invaded by strong and vehement *Fevers*, by reason of the boyling and putrifying of the bloud in the veines of the *Matrix*, which, according

cording to *Galen*, are very large; in the first place therefore, let the Patient be carefully attended, and begin the Cure by opening a veine, by *Cuppinglasses* applyed to the calfes of her legs, with Scarification, and laying *Leeches* to the *Hemorrhoids.*

But the Controversie will be what vein must be cut; for if she bleed from the arme, you draw the bloud upwards; if from the ancle, you weaken the body, and contribute no ease; but if you will follow my direction, tie strong *Ligatures* about her thighes and legs, having first well rubbed them, and then open the *Cubit* veine without any discouragement; for this cleanseth the very Minerall, sinke, and puddle of the putrified Humours. *Galen* indeed affirmeth, that if a veine be opened in any part of the body, it will exhaust and emptie all the Vessells; but not equally, and in all respects alike: for we deliver it for an undoubted truth, that the whole masse of bloud will sooneſt flow away, if the *Basilick* veine be opened, which is greater then any of the rest; and of the same Judgement is *Fernelius*, who saith; if the *menstruum* flow away from women in Childe-bed, thorough the vehemence

hemence of a *Fever*, you must cut the *Cubit* veine.

At the beginning you must refraine the use of purging medicines; for although you should make choice of such as are most gentle in their operation, yet they stir the humours, and doe not expell them from convenient places. Againe, should you prescribe strong purges, they would draw back the *menstruum* from the *Matrix* to the stomack, and disturb Nature, when she is labouring to expell it; and that this were no rationall, and well-grounded meanes of Cure, but rather a rash and prepostorous adventure, any sober judgement will acknowledge, because the expedition, the Art, and the Mystery of the whole Cure consisteth in the provocation of the *Menstruum*.

If it be a violent burning *Fever*, prescribe such things as will qualifie and temper the heat of the bloud; but avoide cold Simples, because they keep in the *menstruum* by binding up the parts; neither may you be too bold with hot things, for they inflame the bloud.

These *Glysters* following will be of excellent use for the purpose aforesaid.

Take nine ounces of some softning Decoction. An

An ounce and a halfe of the *Electuary* called *Diacatholicon.*

An ounce of *hony* of *roses.*

*Butter*, and oyle of sweet *Almonds*, of each halfe an ounce.

A dram of *salt*, mingle them, and make a *Glyster*, or

Take nine ounces of *mutton* broth well boiled.

The leaves of *Motherwort*, *Violets*, and *Pellitory* of the wall, of each a handfull.

Two ounces of *honey* of *roses.*

The yolkes of two *eggs.*

An ounce of oyle of *Violets*, mingle them, and make a *Glyster.*

You may make a *Ptisan* of *Raisins*, *Barley*, and *Licorish*, which will be very profitable for the sick; and of no lesse efficacie is this *Julep* following.

Take *Endive* and *Borage* water, of each six ounces.

Syrup of *Betony*, and *Pomegranets*, of each an ounce.

Mingle them together for a *Julep*, or

Take twenty graines of *Mithridate.*

Ten graines of *Alkermes* without *Musk*, or *Amber.*

Three ounces of *Bugles* water,

Mingle

Mingle them, and let her drinke it at one draught.

If the Disease yield not to these remedies, wee judge it expedient to let her bloud againe, but in the Ankle; if you suspect that Obstructions occasion the disease, as commonly indeed they are to be suspected, you may observe the same way of Cure, as is approved in a *Fever*, arising from Obstructions, and

Take halfe an ounce of *parsley* roots.

The leaves of *betony*, and *carduus Benedictus*, of each a handfull.

Halfe a handfull of white *Maidenhaire*.

The flowers of *Borage*, *Buglos*, *Violets*, or *Roses*, of each as many as you can take up between your thumb and two fingers at twice.

Boile them in a sufficient quantity of *Barley* water, to a pint and a halfe; in the strained liquor infuse foure drams of the choicest *Rubarb*, the space of a night setting the vessell upon hot ashes, with foure scruples of *agarick*, *Trochiscated*, and a scruple of *cinamon*, all put in together.

In the morning boile them a little, and when you have strongly prest out the liquor, add three ounces of Syrup of *roses laxative*, and make an *Apozem*, or a Decoction.

Let

Let her drinke three ounces of this Decoction every other morning.

Hereupon ensueth a Lask, or Loosenesse in the belly, but without any paine, *acrimony*, or griping: and so long as it continueth free from any of those bad qualities, you may by no meanes stay it; but if it last longer with the *Fever*, the most prudent course will be to open a veine in her Ankle, having alwayes a diligent regard to the strength of her body: for this evacuation is Symptomaticall (as Physitians speake) and according to the Prognostications of *Galen*, it is either mortall, or very difficult to be judged: his words are these; when any disease beginneth, if any thing be evacuated, it is not evacuated by any help or curtesie of Nature; but all such things happen by chance in regard of those dispositions, which are in the body besides nature; for it is impossible that any thing should be well purged out when Nature is oppressed (as then she is with the crudenesse of the humours) with those causes which did produce the disease; for that the *Crisis* and Judgement upon this disease may be sound and good, it is requisite that those crudities must first be concocted, and afterwards duly purged

purged out; wherefore if the Looseneſſe happen at the beginning, you muſt neglect that, and be intentive to cure the *Fever*, yet with an eye to the looſeneſſe by letting her bloud; but very ſparingly, leaſt the ſpirits ſhould be waſted; if the looſeneſſe continue ſo long, as to weaken the body, and bring the ſick creature very low, then ſtay it, but with caution, and tender warineſſe; but above all things, avoid the uſe of ſuch things, as will thicken the humours, for thus indeed you might ſtop the Looſeneſſe, but then withall you ſhould ſtay the *menſtruum*, which inconvenience you ought chiefly to feare.

Your ſafeſt way therefore will be to apply ſtrengthning *Fomentations* and Plaiſters, that will moderately binde; and with ſuch you may furniſh your ſelves above.

It would not be unprofitable to purge away the cauſe of the Looſeneſſe, that ſo one *Flux* might be cured by another, therefore

Take halfe a dram of toſted *Rubarb.*

Ten graines of that ſort of *Myrobalans* called *Chebule.*

Halfe an ounce of Syrupe of dried *roſes.*

Three ounces of *plantane* water.

Mingle them, and make a Potion.

Many times this Looſeneſſe turnes to the *Bloudy-Flux*, with cruell paines, want of ſleep, a continuall *Fever*, and frequent going to ſtoole.

This muſt be helped with *Glyſters* of a binding, qualifying, and cleanſing faculty, as for example.

Take the roots of *Comphrey*, and *marſh-mallowes* of each three drams.

A handfull of *plantane* leaves.

Halfe a handfull of red *roſes*.

Boile them in a ſufficient quantity of *barley* water to nine ounces; and to the ſtrained liquor put in

Two ounces of *honey* of *roſes* ſtrained,

An ounce of red *Sugar*.

The yolke of an *egg*.

Mingle them, and make a *Glyſter*. Or

Take *violet* leaves, *plantane*, and *pellitory*, of the wall, of each a handfull.

Halfe a handfull of red *roſes*.

Halfe an ounce of whole *barley*.

Boile them in a ſufficient quantity of broth made with *ſheeps* feet, to nine ounces; to the ſtrained liquor add

Two ounces of *honey* of *roſes* ſtrained.

The yolke of an *egg*.

Mingle them, and make a *Glyſter*.

You muſt not neglect to open the *Baſilick* veine,

veine, and the *Salvatella*; a veine which brancheth out of the *Cephalick* veine, on the outside of the elbow, for these administrations will be wonderfully helpfull to cure a *flux* of bloud, arising from a distemper in the *Liver*; those astringent *fomentations* also, with the oyntments, and *Epithems*, whereof we have spoken at large in the precedent chapters, will be of singular use.

The next Disease, unto which women are subject after their delivery, is a *Lienterry*, so called, because the meat passeth thorough the body, as it was chewed in the mouth, without any change or alteration; this is a most dangerous disease, and therefore all diligence imaginable must conspire to stop it: no lesse terrible, and perillous is that other, named by the Doctors *Iliaca Passio*, when the guts are so bound up, or inflamed, or enwrapped one about another, that whatsoever is swallowed down, is presently cast up againe by vomit, this also requires a seasonable and prudent use of remedies, least the Patient should pine away, and perish for want of sustenance: besides, it is so much the more dangerous, because by those frequent Vomitings Nature is inter-

rupted, and distracted, and that *menstruous* matter is driven upwards, which should have been purged out from beneath.

But note that these Vomitings proceed from severall causes. First from a certaine contagious vapour, ascending from the *Matrix*, and with the noysome odour thereof, irritating and pricking the stomack, so that it suddenly parts with all the aliment that was contained in it.

You must be exceeding industrious with all convenient speed, to free the woman from this infirmity; the vapours must be opposed, and forced downwards, that so by the discreet helps of art, Nature may be assisted to expell those faulty, and offensive humours by the *Matrix*.

This may be accomplish't by tying *Ligatures* about the lower parts, and by rubbing of them till she complaines you hurt her, by putting *Pessaries* up into the *Matrix*, and applying *Cuppinglasses* to her thighes, also by holding things of a strong, and unpleasant odour to her nose, and by opening a vein in her Ankle.

When her body is duely nourished, and well refresh't, give her this *Glyster*.

Take the leaves of *violets*, *pellitory* of the wall, and *beares-breech*, of each a handfull Halfe

Halfe a handfull of red *rose* leaves.
Two drams of *fennill* seeds.
Boile them to nine ounces in a sufficient
uantity of a decoction of an old *hen*, and
the strained liquor add
Two ounces of *honey* of *roses* strained.
An ounce of new *butter*.
Make a *Glyster*.
This being given; you must strengthen
e stomack with the stomachicall Plaister
ready prescribed, and with these *Lo-*
*nges*.
Take a dram of *aromaticum rosatum* in the
*ecies*.
Red *coral* and *pearl* prepared, of each half
dram.
With two ounces and a halfe of white
*gar* dissolved in a sufficient quantity of
*e* water, make little *Lozenges* according
Art, or
Take old Conserve of red *roses*.
*Roman wormewood*.
The Conserve of *Quinces*, of each an
ance.
Halfe an ounce of the Conserve of *Acacia*.
A dram and a halfe of *aromaticum rosa-*
*m* in the *species*.
A dram of the *Trochicks de carabe*.
Two scruples of red *coral* prepared.

With a sufficient quantity of Syrup of *Pomegranets* make a mixture.

Sometimes the Vomiting is accompanied with yexing, and they both proceed from the same causes, and therefore may both be cured with the same remedies: but if it be of long continuance, the most rationall and best grounded proceeding, is to apply a *Cuppinglasse* to the mouth of the stomack with a mighty flame.

After all these follow two more, namely spitting of Bloud, and a Cough: the former whereof is cured by cutting a veine in the Ankle; which kinde of remedy is approved by *Hippocrates*, in the thirty two *Aphorisme* of his fifth book, saying, a woman is freed from spitting or vomiting bloud, if the *menstruum* breake forth, and frequent experience justifies this truth; for divers women, by the omission hereof, as *Galen* hath observed in his booke of *Letting Bloud*, fell into the *Tissick*, and other most lamentable diseases.

But the Cough is twofold, either dry, or moist; the cause of the former is a certaine, contagious vapour communicated to the spiritous parts, provoking the *Midriffe*, the *Lungs*, and the other instruments of breathing, to expell whatsoever is faul-

tie,

tie, and offensive; the cause of the latter is a crude, and raw humour, ascending up from the *Matrix* to the Chest, and sticking fast unto it.

This is cured by rubbing the parts, and tying straight *Ligatures* about them, by *Pessaries*, *Glysters*, *Cuppinglasses*, opening a veine in her ankle, by *Electuaries*, *Ptisans*, expectorating Potions to cleanse away the bad humour, by laying on *Emplastrum Resumptivum Pectorale*, or *Unguentum de Althæa*; among which you must mingle *Cummin* seeds and *Saffron*.

After the same manner Women in Childbed are troubled to fetch their breath, because by a mutuall, and frequent stretching, and compression of the Chest the vapours are transmitted to the *Lungs*, and they who feele themselves molested with such vapours do seldome escape that Cough we last mentioned.

Moreover to this Catalogue belongeth the *Pleurisie*, which is a most acute, and therefore a most dangerous disease; this you may discerne by these signes following, an acute and burning *Fever*, a Cough, difficultie to fetch breath, a pricking paine, and a hard pulse.

Open a veine, and you overcome this

disease, without any further remedy; but the question will be, in what part of the body? I answer, if it be a most violent *Pleurisie*, that torments the sick, if her *Courses* come down after a right manner, and yet the evill abates not, then cut a veine in her ankle; but if this availe not, so as the Patients life is now in danger, then open a veine in her arme, especially, if she be full of bloud, that the vitious humour may be drawn away from the inflamed place, and seasonably evacuated; this advice of mine is justified by the approbation of *Mercurialis Mercatus, Alphonsus a Castro, Meschius, Valeriola*, and the learned *Zacutus Lusitanus*; neither will it be incovenient; if you interchange this administration of *phlebotomy*, namely, first to draw bloud from the ankle, then from the arme, then from the ankle againe, and so keeping turnes, as need shall require; for thus you will give ease, both to the part inflamed, and likewise to the *Matrix*, which is the part *mandant*, or that from whence the evill is communicated and distributed to the other regions.

This being carefully performed, your next designe must be to mitigate, and take away the paine with *fomentations*, *liniments Electuaries*, and *Ptisans*. Take

Take an ounce of the roots of *marish mallowes.*

The leaves of *mallowes*, *marish mallows*, and white *Maidenhaire*, of each a handfull.

Halfe a handfull of the flowers of *dwarf-elder.*

*Annise* and *Line* seeds, of each halfe an ounce.

Boyle them in water to a quart, and give her the strained liquor to drinke at severall times, then

Take a dram of *unguentum de Althæa.*

The *Axungia* of a *hen*, and new *butter*, of each halfe an ounce.

Two ounces of oyle of sweet *Almonds.*

Mingle them, and make an oyntment, then

Take Syrup of *Violets* compound, and Syrup of *Maidenhaire*, of each an ounce and a halfe.

Mingle them, and make a mixture to be licked from the point of a knife.

Afterwards.

Take two ounces of cleansed *barley.*

An ounce of *raisins* pickt, stoned and washt.

Two drams of the best *Licoras.*

Boile them in raine water to a quart, and give

give her the ſtrained liquor to drinke.

Note that in all diſeaſes of the *Membranes*, the upper part of the throate, and the Jawes, yea, and in the *Falling-Sickneſſe*, the *Apoplexy*, the *Palſie*, and the *Convulſions*, you muſt begin the Cure by letting bloud, if plentie of bloud give occaſion to the Diſeaſe.

The ſwelling of the feet is the laſt of all thoſe Symptomes, which invade a woman after her Delivery; and this proceeds from a diſorderly, and negligent Diet, during the time of her being with Childe; for by that meanes raw humours are bread in her body, which after her Delivery ſettle in her legs; as being cold parts, full of nerves, and far diſtant from the *Liver*, which is the fountaine of bloud, in which places you ſhall perceive ſoft kinde of ſwellings, which being cruſht down, retaine the print of your fingers.

This muſt be cured with ſtrengthning adminiſtrations, and ſuch medicines as are good to expell the raw humours, and likewiſe with ſuch as will moderately binde; for ſhould you give her ſtrong binders, you would thereby allure the humours towards the upper parts; therefore to avoide that errour, prepare this Bath following.

Take

Take two ounces of *marish mallow* roots.
The leaves of *mallowes*,
*Mint*,
*Wormewood*,
*Sage*,
*Rosemary*, of each two handfulls.
The leaves of red *roses* and *camomile*,
Of each a handfull.
An ounce of *Laurell Berries*.
*Saltpeter*,
*Sulphur*, of each half an ounce.

Boile them to eight pints in a sufficient quantity of water, wherein *steele* hath been often quenched, and let her put her feet into the strained liquor.

Then take the dreggish substance which remaines, after the straining of the said liquor, and add to it

The meale of *Orobus*,
And *Lupines*, of each three ounces.
Foure ounces of *Oxymel*.

With a sufficient quantity of *brine*, made with the juice of *Lemmons*, reduce them into the forme of a Poultis, and lay it to the swelled feet.

But if the humour fall down againe into the legs, by reason of an habituall distemper in the upper parts, you must either make an issue upon the knee, or else provoke

voke her to ſweat, with a decoction of *Salſaparilla*, and *China* roots; for by the vertue of theſe Simples the humour is made thin, and more apt for expulſion, aud the lower parts wax more firme and ſtrong.

## CHAP. VIII.

### *Of an inflammation in the* Matrix *after a womans Delivery.*

THe Cauſe of an Inflammation in the *Matrix* is a hot and boiling bloud retained in the veſſells, and putrifying.

The ſignes are a paine in her ſecret Parts, a vehement *Fever*, much heat, ſwelling, and a great itching about all the parts of the *Matrix*; hereupon the woman becomes very prone to fainting fits, to lye as if ſhe were ſtupified, to talke idely, and the like, by reaſon of the conſent between the *Matrix*, and the other parts, as we have already ſhewed. Laſtly, ſhe can neither goe to ſtoole, nor make water, without great difficulty, becauſe the parts are ſo exceedingly ſwelled.

This is a moſt terrible diſeaſe, as well in regard

regard of the Symptomes, as of the Impofthume, which, if it be broken, leaves behinde it an incurable *Ulcer*, from whence filthy and noysome exhalations are communicated to the principall parts, which is an unerring signe of Death.

The Cure is Universall, and Particular: the universall is the opening of a veine in the ankle, regard being had onely to the part inflamed, and the motion of nature; but afterwards, we deny not, but it may be expedient, and efficacious to draw bloud from the arme, in respect of the *Fever*.

The Particular is accomplisht by lenifying medicines, and by washing the part, the one is done by a *Cataplasm* made after this manner.

Take two ounces of the crums of white *Bread*.

The Pap of rosted *apples*.

The Pulp of *cassia* newly drawn out, of each an ounce.

Half an ounce of the mucilage of *Fleabane*-seeds.

Ten graines of *Saffron*.

Make a *Cataplasme* according to Art.

But if the Inflammation seeme to hasten to suppuration, which you may perceive by the *Fever*, and the vehemence of the paine, then

then you must discreetly assist Nature, by an application of suppurating medicines, but by no meanes adventure to give her a purge: remedies of the former sort are as follow.

Take an ounce of *marish mallow* roots.

The leaves of *mallowes.*

And *marish mallowes*, of each a handfull and a halfe.

*Line* seed,

*Fenugreek*, of each halfe an ounce.

Boile them in a sufficient quantity of *breast-milke* unto softnesse; pulp them thorough a Sieve, and add to the pulp

Two ounces of *Hogs-grease.*

An ounce of oyle of *roses.*

Make your *Cataplasm.*

When you have overcome the Imposthume, use this Injection with a Syringe.

Take six ounces of a decoction made with wole *barley*, and *rose* leaves.

An ounce and a halfe of *honey* of *roses* strained.

Make an Injection, and wash the ulcerated part very often every day, till the paine cease, and the *Ulcer* be healed, though she continue the use thereof for weeks, months, and yeares.

CHAP.

## CHAP. IX.

### *Of too little, and too much Milke.*

WAnt of milk ariseth from these three severall Causes. First, from the fault of the milk. Secondly, from some impediment which hinders the transmission of the milke to the breasts; or if it be transmited, it is not retained. Thirdly, a penury, or lack of bloud, either for want of necessary food, or by reason of some immoderate issue of bloud from the *Matrix*, or from some other part.

The Signes of these things are the slenderness of the breast, a sharp taste in the milke, and a bad smell; other signes you need none, because the disease is manifest of it selfe; in the meane time you must take heed, that this corrupt milke doe not settle in the Breasts, and exulcerate them; wherefore beginning with the first cause, you must correct and amend the faults of the milke by purging out the bad juice: if *phlegme* abound, give her hot things, not onely to purge her, but also to nourish her body;

body; if *choler* be predominant, prescribe cooling and moistning things.

But when the Breasts doe neither draw the bloud nor retaine it, you must be solicitous to strengthen the Breasts by drawing bloud unto them; to this purpose you must rub her body, apply *fomentations*, and *Cataplasmes*, that will moderately heat, and expell, made of *marish mallow* roots, the leaves of *Violets*, *mallowes*, *melilot*, *fenugreek*, the crum of white *breead* and the yolks of *Eggs*.

Moreover, if the parts want nourishment, then let her feed upon the choicest dishes, or at least appoint such things for her, as are good to increase bloud, and milke, as *eggs*, *butter*, *milke* boiled with *fennill*, *parsnips*, and the like.

Rock her to sleep, by peaceable and sweet admonitions, and exercise your wits to keep her from anger, melancholy, and all other perturbations of the minde.

It will not be hurtfull, but rather expedient to allow her the use of good wine, but then remember to put into it the powder of earth *wormes*.

Contrary to this is the immoderate plenty, and superfluitie of the milke, which you may easily discerne by that which comes

comes away, therefore if you suspect that the bloud will congeale and grow clotted, then lessen the abundance of the mike, with a thin and spare diet; enjoyne her to be very abstemious and moderate in her drinke, and if her *Courses* be stopped, open a veine in her ankle; but otherwise in her arme, rub her legs, and use all other meanes to divert the bloud from the Breasts; but above all things, let her use Exercise, which is the best remedie in this case.

Yet if the bloud be congealed, and if by the exhalation of the thinner part, the rest wax thick, then you must administer attenuating and drying medicines to cut, make thin, and dissolve the clotted bloud; of this sort are *Emplastrum de mucilaginibus*, and *emplastrum de Meliloto*, among which you may mingle the juice of *Smallage*, and *Frankincense*.

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## CHAP. X.

### *Of the Inflammations of the Breasts.*

WOmens Breasts, those delicate and tender parts, are not only frequent-

ly afflicted with the congealing of the bloud, but they are likewise very apt to be inflamed, by reason of a mixt plenty of bloud and milke, whereby they swell exceedingly, looke of a high, red colour, and are full of paine and soreneſſe; This Inflammation is accompanied with a *Fever*, which the Phyſitians call *Lactaria*, that is by Interpretation, the *Fever* of the milke, or the milky *Fever*; and the learned Midwives call it *Pila*, becauſe preſently, unleſſe the Breaſts be well chafed and rubbed, there appeareth to the touch an exact reſemblance of a Ball; This taketh not beginning from any venomous humour contained in the Breaſts, but is rather to be accounted a Symptome, driven to the Breaſts by the motion of Nature, and the bloud; it is likewiſe very hardly diſtinguiſhable from a true *Fever*, in which all the ſignes are conſpicuous and manifeſt, as appeare in this, the ſwelling in the Breaſts onely being excepted, which is not ſome Ball accidently ſwallowed with the drinke, as many learned men have vainely, and irrationally ſurmiſed; for how is it poſſible, that a Ball ſhould ſlip from the ſtomack thorough thoſe ſlender paſſages of the *Meſſentery*, and the *Liver*,

the

the hollow veine, and the *Axillary* veines, to the region of the Breasts; therefore in my Judgment, it is a phlegmatick matter, ravelled as it were by the burning heat of the part into long threads, as it happeneth to the slow matter contained in the *Kidneys*, and the *Bladder*.

If the *Fever* and the Inflammation be urgent, you must immediately command a veine in her ankle to be opened, if it happen presently after her delivery: but if a moneth be overpast, let the *Basilick* vein on the same side be opened.

You must prescribe medicines to repell the humour, but be carefull that they be not extreame cold, least the humour should retire back to the principall parts; a *Glyster* also must be first injected; and you may afterwards prescribe this Poultis following, which will mollifie and dissolve the humour, and be very profitable.

Take an ounce of *marish mallow* roots.
The leaves of *mallowes*,
*Violets*,
*Plantane*, of each a handfull and a halfe.

Boile them altogether in milke to softnesse, and pulp them thorough a Sieve, and to the pulp add

Foure ounces of the crum of white *Bread.*

A scruple of *Saffron.*

Mingle them, and make a Poultis.

Many times the Breasts and the Nipples are full of chaps, which exceedingly torment and paine a woman: these are caused by a sharp waterish humour falling down upon them, and may be cured with *mallowes* boiled in breast-milke, or with the white of an egg, or with *Lilly* leaves moistned in oyle, or with *Unguentum Pompholygos*, or which will exceed all the former with oyle of *Nutmegs*; among which you may mingle *bolearmenick* with *Cerus*, and some drops of oyle of *Lead*, or some other oyle by it self.

## CHAP. XI.

## CHAP. XI.

### *Of wrinckles remaining in the* Matrix *after a Womans Delivery, and of the meanes to contract the* Matrix.

WHen a woman is delivered, there appeare Chaps, or Wrinckles, by reason of the coming forth of the Childe, and the *flux* of the *Menstruum*: these we have often cured with gentle, astringent medicines, having first administred this Injection thorough a Syringe.

Take halfe an ounce of *Comphrey* roots.
Two drams of *Cyprus* nuts.
*Pomegranet* flowers,
Red *roses*, of each as many as you can containe between your thumb and two fingers at twice.
*Myrtle* seeds,
*Shumach* seeds, of each a dram.

Boile them in a sufficient quantity of red *wine*, to sixteen ounces, and reserve the strained liquor for an Injection; or

Take a dram of *Comphrey* roots.
*Cyprus* nuts, and the seeds of *rhois*,

Of each halfe a dram.

As many red *roses* as your thumb and two fingers can grasp.

Beat them to a grosse powder, and with an ounce of *unguent. Pomphol ygos*, and a piece of *Cotton*, make a *Pessary*.

With the same medicines, interminglings some other things that are greater binders, you may help the loosenesse, and wideness of the secret parts; which if they be not seasonably and prudently contracted, may possibly be a cause that the woman will have no more Children. Some Midwives use water wherein *steele* hath been infused, which we dislike not, provided that when you boile the water, you put in a quantity of *Sumach* seeds, *Medlar* seeds, and red *Roses*.

FINIS.